687

NARRATIVE

OF

PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTIONS

From 1858 to 1873.

CALCUTTA:

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1874.

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In the following pages I have gathered together the scattered particulars of various Subcriptions to which all classes of the community of Calcutta, and the public of India generally, have, for many years, contributed, and with the management of which I have been closely connected.

The occasions which evoked so much sympathy and benevolence are recorded in chronological order; and this narrative of acts of charity and public duty may not be uninteresting to those who care to preserve it.

H. W. I. WOOD.

Calcutta, 31*st December* 1873.

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VENABLES TESTIMONIAL.

Extract from Report of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, 29th May 1858.

THE Committee have hitherto abstained from expressing their views upon the great struggle commencing with the terrible explosion at Meerut on the 10th of May last year, and in which we are still engaged—we fear with the prospect of the contest continuing for many months longer. Many heroes have fallen to whose memories honor has already been shown, but there is one individual who has sacrificed his life in the service of his country, we think the Commercial community would not be doing justice to themselves were they not to raise some Testimonial to his memory. We mean the late Mr. Venables, [Indigo Planter, *Dhoreeghat and Kainwar* concerns, Azimghur,] who, until wounded, was in the heat of all the actions which have taken place in the Gorruckpore and Azimghur districts since this mutiny first broke out, and whose courage, zeal, and success, in his fights with the rebels are so well known to you all, that we are sure it is unnecessary for us to do more than to simply recommend the matter for your consideration.

The services done by Mr. Venables to the State are gracefully acknowledged by the Governor General in the *Government Gazette* of 24th April in the following terms:—

"It is with deep regret that His Lordship has to announce the subsequent death of Mr. Venables of Azimghur, from the wound received by him while gallantly assisting in the

pursuit of the rebels under Kooer Sing. Mr. Venables, although bound to the service of the State by no tie save his courageous and patriotic spirit, had rendered the most valuable assistance to Government from the commencement of the mutinies, and had been greatly distinguished by his intrepidity and energy, tempered with a singularly calm and sound judgment. The Governor General records with much sorrow his sincere respect for the memory of Mr. Venables."

We suggest that a Committee be appointed for collecting subscriptions, with the view of erecting a Testimonial to Mr. Venables' memory.

Mr. Venables died on the 18th April 1858 in the 44th year of his age.

Resolutions of the Chamber of Commerce.

1. That this Meeting, cordially approving of the suggestion contained in the Report of the Committee of the Chamber now read, resolve that a Testimonial be erected to the memory of the late Mr. Venables; and that a Committee be appointed to collect subscriptions.

2. That the following gentlemen be a Committee for the purpose, with power to add to their number :—

Messrs. C. E. Schoene, Seth A. Apcar, James Rose, George May, W. Moran, George Brown, J. H. Fergusson, D. B. Lindsay, James Church, Junior, James J. Mackenzie, D. Mackinlay, C. Durrschmidt, and Henry Cowie.

In pursuance of the above the Committee assembled this day, and passed the following resolutions :—

Mr. George Brown, at the request of the Meeting, taking the Chair—

1. That the Fund about to be raised shall be styled the "Venables Testimonial Fund."

2. That Subscription Lists be opened in behalf of the Fund, and that advertisements be published in the local papers inviting contributions from the friends and admirers of the late Mr. Venables.

That the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce be requested to act as Honorary Secretary and Treasurer.

Calcutta, 7th June 1858.

FROM LORD CANNING,

Allahabad, 13th June 1858.

TO GEORGE BROWN, ESQ.,

Calcutta.

DEAR MR. BROWN,—I have just seen your letter to my Private Secretary of the 8th instant.

It will give me great satisfaction to take part in raising a Testimonial to the memory of Mr. Venables, and I beg you to express to the members of the Committee, in whose name you have written, my thanks for giving me an early opportunity of joining in the work.

It will be a satisfaction to me to do so, not only on account of the admiration which I feel for the high qualities which Mr. Venables devoted to the public service; his intrepidity in the field, his energy and calm temper in upholding the civil authority, and his thoroughly just appreciation of the people and circumstances with which he had

to deal; but also, and especially, on account of circumstances attending the last service which Mr. Venables rendered to his country.

After the capture of Lucknow where he was attached to Brigadier General Franks' column, Mr. Venables came to Allahabad. He was broken in health and spirits, anxious for rest, and looking forward eagerly to his return to England, for which his preparations were made.

At that time the appearance of affairs near Azimgurh was threatening, and I asked Mr. Venables to forego his departure from India, and to return to that district with which he was intimately acquainted, there to assist in preserving order, until danger should have passed away. He at once consented cheerfully, and that consent cost him his life.

I am certain that the Court of Directors, who are fully informed of all the particulars of Mr. Venables' great services and untimely death, will be eager to mark in such manner as shall seem best to them, their appreciation of the character of this brave self-denying English gentleman, and I am truly glad to have an opportunity of joining with his fellow-countrymen in India in testifying the sincere respect which I feel for his memory.

I beg you to place my name on the list of subscribers to the Testimonial, and I enclose a draft for my subscription.

Believe me, dear Mr. Brown,

Yours very faithfully,

CANNING.

Proceedings of a Meeting of the Venables' Testimonial Committee held at the Office of the Chamber of Commerce on the 2nd December 1859.

Present: George Brown, Esq., in the chair, Messrs. Mackinlay, Rose, Schoene, Apcar, and Durrschmidt.

Read letter from Mr. J. Remfry, Honorary Secretary to the General Committee of the Calcutta Institute, informing the Committee that it had been determined to apply the surplus of the Dalhousie Testimonial Fund in aid of the construction of a Public Building in Calcutta for the use of the community generally, and hoping that the Committee of the Venables' Fund will co-operate in that design, by giving the surplus of the Funds entrusted to their care. With reference to the communication from the General Committee of the Calcutta Institute, it is—

Resolved, that the surplus funds of the Venables' Testimonial, remaining after providing for a suitable Memorial of the late Mr. Venables, be handed over to the Committee of the Calcutta Institute, to aid them in carrying out the contemplated object, on the Committee of the Venables' Testimonial being satisfied that a sufficient sum has been collected for that purpose, and on the condition of the Memorial to Mr. Venables being placed in a conspicuous part of the proposed Building.

GEORGE BROWN,
Chairman.

With reference to the proceedings and resolution above recorded, the undersigned report for the information of subscribers that a suitable memorial of the late Mr. Venables, consisting of a marble bust, executed by Mr. John Steel

of Edinburgh, having been provided, and placed in a conspicuous part of the Dalhousie Institute, the surplus funds, Rs. 15,600 in Government 5 per cent. Note, and Rs. 5,902-9-9 in cash, have been transferred to the President, Vice-President, and Honorary Treasurer of the Institute.

				Rs.	As.	P.
The subscriptions of 1858 came to			...	12,965	5	3
Interest on Government Securities and deposit with Agra Bank			...	9,558	3	9
			Total Rs.	22,523	9	0
Cost of 15,600 Govt. Securities	...	14,391	3 11			
Cost of Bust, Pedestal, &c.	... ...	1,518	13 8			
Petty expenses	...	266	9 2			
Discount for withdrawal of Bank deposit	...	444	4 6			
Cash	... ...	5,902	9 9			
			Rs.	22,523	9	0

JAMES ROSE,

Sole Resident Member of the Committee Venables' Testimonial Fund.

H. W. I. WOOD,

Honorary Secretary.

Calcutta, 31*st May* 1870.

WILSON MEMORIAL.

Extract from Report of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, 11th December 1860.

The Committee cannot close their report without placing on record the expression of their deep regret at the loss the country has sustained by the lamented death of the Right Hon'ble James Wilson.

A twelve-month has scarcely passed since the Chamber had the honor of congratulating him on his arrival and the assumption of his high and responsible office. A sense of present satisfaction and of future security was universally entertained from the conviction that the financial regeneration of the Indian Empire had been committed to the guidance of one who was fully equal to the emergency and determined to deal with it; and the commercial community looked forward with confidence to the results of his administration.

To introduce a scheme of reform which should revolutionise an unpopular and defective system of finance was the object of his mission; and the work was entered upon with so vigorous an application of his great practical experience as to leave no doubt of the ultimate success of his labors.

The various measures which engaged his attention are so well-known that they need not be here recounted: they all tended to create that perfect order of financial Government which it was his anxious hope to see firmly established in this country.

But in the midst of these numerous and important plans and schemes all further progress was arrested by his un-

timely death, which has inflicted a loss that can only be regarded as a most severe national calamity.

Mr. Wilson's public services were fully estimated in England, but here, where the importance of a sound financial system had been less appreciated by the Government, his knowledge and experience were doubly valuable. His death has been acutely felt by the Government both in England and in India, and to the commercial classes in this country it has been a loss which cannot be estimated or sufficiently deplored.

For the purpose of recording in some enduring form the feeling of respect entertained by the mercantile community of Calcutta for the memory of the lamented statesman a subscription has been set on foot amongst them, amounting to Rs. 6,424, [subsequently increased to Rs. 10,000.] A much larger sum might no doubt have been raised had the subscription been thrown open to all classes : but there was a general wish amongst those interested in the movement that one monument at least in this city should be erected at the sole expense of the class from which Mr. Wilson himself sprung, to bear witness to future generations that his generous exertions for the benefit of his country were not unappreciated by those who were competent to form an opinion on the soundness of his policy and the purity of his intentions.

From the Indian Daily News, 4th June 1870.

The Dalhousie Institute has received another addition to its art treasures in the Statue of the late Mr. James Wilson, the Finance Minister of India, who died in August 1860.

Impressed with the value of the services rendered to the country by Mr. Wilson, the merchants of Calcutta held a meeting to take into consideration a proposition to raise a subscription, exclusively among the merchants of the city, for the purpose of erecting a memorial in honor of the right honorable gentleman. Rs. 10,000 were speedily raised and a commission given to Mr. John Steel, of Edinburgh, for a life-size statue. The circumstances of the movement and its results are set forth in the following extract from an Edinburgh paper :—

"Shortly after the melancholy death of Mr. Wilson, whose great administrative abilities had just begun to tell on the financial affairs of India, when he was prematurely taken away, a subscription was entered into among the merchants of Calcutta for a memorial which should express the public sense entertained of his brief but valuable services. It was resolved that the memorial should be in the form of a marble statue, and that the execution of it should be entrusted to Mr. Steel, who had already produced for Calcutta an admirable statue, also in marble, of the late Marquis of Dalhousie, as a memorial of his distinguished rule as Governor General. The figure is over life size. The countenance is admirably faithful; and the figure and attitude are highly characteristic. Mr. Wilson appears as demonstrating a fact or proposition to an audience, and he clinches the argument by impressing the two first fingers of the right in the palm of the left hand. With regard to costume, Mr. Wilson wears the ordinary surtout and the deep stock with bow in front, which has now almost disappeared from the varieties of neckties worn. The necessary technical support is given to the figure, and an artistic treatment is imparted by the long cloak, which is gracefully, almost classically, draped behind."

To complete the history of this memorial and work of art, we need only state that the statue has been since 1865 in the possession of the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, pending the completion of the Dalhousie Institute, where it was resolved it should be placed. After a long delay the building of the Institute has been so far advanced as to admit of the reception of the statuary which is to adorn its hall, and commemorate our Indian worthies. On Friday last the statue of Mr. Wilson was handed over to the care of the Council of the Institute, and has been safely placed in its destined position.

INDIA FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

PUBLIC MEETING IN AID OF THE SUFFERERS.

23rd January 1861.

PURSUANT to the advertisement issued by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, a large and influential meeting was held at the rooms of the Chamber, at 4 P. M. yesterday, for the purpose of concerting measures towards alleviating the distress from famine prevailing in the North-Western Provinces; and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :—

1*st. Resolution.*—Proposed by J. N. Bullen, Esq. seconded by W. S. Fitzwilliam, Esq :

That Colonel R. Baird Smith be requested to take the chair.

A gentleman recently arrived from Delhi first adressed the meeting and stated to what extremes of distress the inhabitants of those districts had been reduced and what measures had been taken by the non-official community to lighten it. About Rs. 5,000 had been received as donations, and there was a monthly subscription of about Rs. 2,000.

2*nd. Resolution.*—Proposed by E. D. Kilburn, Esq., seconded by Baboo Prosonocomar Tagore :

That this meeting, sympathising with the distress which prevails over a large portion of the North-Western Provinces in consequence of the failure of the crops during

the last season, and desirous of alleviating that distress so far as may be in its power, resolves that a public subscription be raised in Calcutta and its vicinity; and that the active co-operation of the Sister Presidencies in this good work be invited.

Mr. PETERSON said—I do not wish, in making my present remarks, to say anything that can in any way damp the sympathies or check the generosity of parties who are called on to open their purses to meet the misery of and famine now pending. The starving inhabitants must be fed at any rate, without, as far as they are concerned, going into any of the causes of the present misfortune. I should not have come except on a special invitation conveyed to me; but when the community, I being one of them, are called to subscribe to this particular object and to open their purse strings, I submit the public have a right to enquire whether a periodical recurrence of these calamities cannot be avoided, and whether it would not be advisable to bring a starving population to food rather than to send money or food to a starving population. We have heard from the gentleman who spoke last, that so scarce was food in and about Delhi that the price of wheat was nine seers for a rupee. We had in Lower Bengal rice at very nearly the same price, but we had no appeal to the public to save the Bengalees from dying of starvation. Although suffering from want they managed to tide over a year of want until they came to an average year or a year of plenty. The question that naturally arises is this: Is there anything in the land tenure which in any way, either on the one hand wards off the consequences of a famine, or on the other is likely to conduce to a famine? It strikes me that the land tenure, although it could not

avert bad seasons or give rain, could, and did, and does, under the zemindaree system, alleviate considerably the effects of bad seasons. The truth is, the zemindar and the mahajun in Lower Bengal are the buffers that stand between the actual cultivator and starvation in times of dearth, and between the cultivator and wanton waste in times of plenty. Now, in the North-West there was no buffer; the talookdar had long since been destroyed, and the cultivator had no one to look to who could make, or had made a reservoir on which he could fall back in times of need. The village system and its rack rental was, in fact, a mistake, and, in my humble opinion, had much to do with the necessity of the present appeal to our pockets. Another question also arises; here we are in the latter half of the nineteenth century, seeing such an anomaly in a country long under British rule, as plenty in one part of the country, and want, amounting to actual starvation, in another and no means of conveying either the want to the land of plenty, or the plenty to the land of want; does not this show something wrong in the Government, and should not such an anomaly form the subject of investigation so as to prevent a periodical recurrence of the appeals to our sympathies, or of the dreadful state of things this day detailed? One would imagine that those enduring famine and hunger would naturally migrate from one part of the country to another where there was plenty, but there were, in fact, no means of migration within the powers of the suffering population. I submit that the public, when appealed to, have a right to go into these matters and see if they cannot suggest some means of remedying the evil. Any such investigation need not, nor would, check the immediate alleviation of our starving

fellow-subjects, and I hope that nothing I have said will be construed as having such intention. I trust that to the extent of our means we shall come forward and promptly, but at the same time whilst we open our purses I claim the right of the public not simply to see into the best method by which their good intentions can be carried out, but also to ventilate the question as to whether there be any means of preventing the recurrence of these famines, or the necessity for these appeals.

Sir Bartle Frere rose and said—Unfortunately there was now no doubt of the extent of the famine in the North-West Provinces or of the awfully serious consequences to the inhabitants of the districts affected by it. His talented friend the chairman had, after careful research and investigation at an early period of the season, predicted the probability of a short fall of rain, and had drawn the attention of Government, who had caused every enquiry to be made as the season progressed, and every precaution to be adopted to avert the sad consequences. He had not expected when he came into the room to hear of any objection being raised to the resolution which had just been moved; but as the conduct of Government had been attacked, he must take leave to explain what they had done and what they proposed to do. The person who last addressed the meeting had stated that the cause of the famine was the system of land tenure, and had cast blame on the Government for remissness in providing means of emigration, and of otherwise alleviating the distress.

Mr. Peterson begged to interrupt the speaker for a moment, to state that he had not in any way thrown blame on the present Government: that he had expressed

his opinion that the system of land tenure in the Upper Provinces kept the population a cottier one, dependent for subsistence on the annual profit from the ground they leased, and had merely suggested that the system should be enquired into to prevent a recurrence of a similar calamity or mitigate its consequences.

SIR BARTLE FRERE proceeded to say that in his opinion land tenure was like a man's skin; it grew with his growth and adapted itself to his requirements and size. He did not think that any change in the system of tenure could have prevented the famine in the North-West or diminished its effects. He looked more to the result of the canals which had been constructed by Government, and particularly to the Ganges one, in connection with which the name of the chairman, Colonel Baird Smith, would go down to posterity with that of Sir Proby Cautley. He had understood that blame had been cast on Government, and had therefore deemed it right to offer those explanations.

Baboo Prosonocomar Roy seconded the resolution.

MR. JAMES BRUCE explained at some length the mode which had been adopted at Agra, and the resolution which had been passed by the Government providing that none should be helped except those who were really unable to help themselves. The Government had determined to assist all who could work, even if that work only amounted to the carrying of a basket of earth, but this assistance was to be given in cooked food and not money. Those who were really incapable of labour were collected in a compound and supplied daily with cooked food. Grain was being imported, too, from other places, but so

little protection was afforded to the convoy, that on more than one occasion they had been plundered by the populace.

THE CHAIRMAN, in reply to Mr. Peterson's remark about emigration, stated that already the people were migrating towards Central India and Gwalior. He perfectly agreed with Sir Bartle Frere in his statement as to the Government having done their utmost both by giving work on the Railways and the roads. The Ganges Canal was of the greatest benefit, and, as an example, he would mention that a private company was employed in carrying grain by it at a great profit.

After the gallant Colonel had read an extract from a letter from Mr. Muir of the Board of Revenue at Allahabad, showing of what great benefit this canal had been to the sufferers,

MR. TEMPLE rose and said—I have to say a few words, in order to show you that not only are all the sad accounts you have heard actually within the fact, but that even worse things may be apprehended, and that dark as is the present, the prospect for the future is darker still. Hitherto it has been hoped that the distress within the limits of the Punjab Government would be restricted to the districts between the Jumna and the Sutlej. So long as the timely showers of the winter were expected there was hope that the spring crop of the Punjab sown in October would be saved for the harvest of March and April. In the case of a poor wheat crop in the Punjab there was a chance of assistance being rendered to the distressed districts of the North-West. That hope is, however, fast disappearing. In proof of

this let me read to you an extract from the report of a Local Relief Committee at Lahore. After noticing the distress in the districts between the Jumna and the Sutlej the Committee go on to say :—

"But this state of things is only the commencement of evils still more fearful. If rain be not mercifully sent, even within a few days, to restore the almost lost hope of the approaching spring harvest, then will the famine become general, and the population of a large part of the country will be exposed to misery such as has seldom been witnessed."

Now, Gentlemen, this was written on the 9th January. Permit me next to read an extract from a letter received this day from one of the ablest and best informed of the Punjab officials, and bearing date 14th January :—"All the Punjab, from Delhi to Peshawur, are more or less suffering from almost total absence of moisture. In this current year 1860-61, there will be a sad deficiency, and the spring crop from Cawnpore to Peshawur may be set down as an absolute and certain failure. This will be felt in its effects for years."

Permit me next to make some brief remarks on what fell from one of the previous speakers in respect to the tenure of land in the North-West. Though I am most anxious to avoid political discussion, yet as a North-West officer I cannot remain altogether silent. I understand the honorable and learned gentleman to say that the distress from famine has been aggravated by the state of the land tenures, and that if a class of large zemindars had existed they would have alleviated the distress. Now, I do not say whether the large zemindaree tenures have

been rightly dealt with or not. I make no doubt that wherever large zemindars exist in the North-West or elsewhere, they are a great benefit and advantage to the country. But I do say that in the North-West the greater part of the land is held, and has always been held, by those village communities which are the pride of those provinces. These communities have been preserved intact to this day, and are in perfect condition as regards tenure and constitution. And I say further that the arrangements for the preservation of landed tenures have had nothing, absolutely nothing, to do with the distress now prevailing. How is it possible that the existence or non-existence of zemindars could make any really appreciable difference at such an awful crisis. I ask the many excellent and intelligent zemindars of Bengal whom I see present, whether they could undertake to mitigate the effects of a famine, should the rains fail in Bengal? Doubtless they would make every effort to do their duty. But what would even that avail at such a time? The truth is, that when the judgments of Providence descend upon us it is not in the power of any class, however powerful or well disposed, to save a famishing people. The only public works that can help are the means of irrigation, which have been, and still are, so largely promoted in the North-West and the Punjab, and those remunerative works, and those measures of relief so well organized by the Government of the North-West. To that we must now add our private contributions, and trust to Providence for the issue.

MR. HARINGTON said before reading the 3rd resolution, which he had been asked to propose, and which related merely to the appointment of a general committee for the

purpose of carrying out the object of the present meeting, he thought it right that he should state to the meeting in a few words what he had himself been doing in furtherance of the same good object. He had not been able to do much, for the time over which his labors had extended was very short. On finding that a famine was inevitable in some parts of the North-Western Provinces, and that a meeting had been held at Delhi to consider what measures should be adopted for the relief of the suffering poor, he wrote to the Deputy Commissioner at Delhi and asked to be furnished with a report of the proceedings of the meeting held at that place, and to be informed whether the Committee appointed at that meeting proposed to extend its operations to the whole of the districts in the North-Western Provinces which might stand in need of aid, or whether the operations of the Delhi Committee were to be confined to Delhi and its immediate neighbourhood. It appeared to him right that he should obtain this information before he appealed to the Calcutta public in behalf of the sufferers by the present famine, because, as that famine extended to several districts, he did not think he could ask for subscriptions in aid of funds to be raised for one district or particular part of the country alone. He had not yet received an answer to his letter, but intermediately, as they had just been told by a gentleman who had recently arrived from the Upper Provinces, a meeting had been held at Agra at which it was resolved that a General Relief Fund should be raised at that place for the relief of the sufferers by famine throughout the North-Western Provinces. One of the Resolutions adopted at this meeting was that he should be asked, in virtue of his office as Legislative Member of the Council of India for the North-

Western Provinces, to collect subscriptions in Calcutta in aid of the Agra Fund, which, as he had just mentioned, was to be regarded as a General Relief Fund. On this resolution being communicated he lost no time in putting a subscription book in circulation. As yet this book had gone to but few, but it had been well received, and some handsome contributions would be found in it. At the time that he commenced to make collections he was not aware of the intention to hold this meeting, but directly he was informed of that intention he placed himself in communication with Mr. Kilburn, who, he was told, was interesting himself in behalf of the sufferers in the North-West, and offered to co-operate with him any way in which he could do so most effectually. What he had stated would explain to the meeting how it happened that his (Mr. Harington's) name appeared on the subscription book which was going round as circulating the same. He would now remove his name, and, relinquishing his office of private collector, place his subscription book in the hands of their chairman. When he entered the room in which they were assembled this afternoon, he rejoiced to think that to-day at least they would all stand on common ground; that at this meeting no difference of opinion could arise; that every one who attended the meeting would come with the same common object, *viz.*, to express sympathy for the sufferers by the present famine, and to aid in doing all that was possible at this distance to alleviate the distress occasioned thereby. He had therefore heard with regret what had fallen from the learned barrister who had addressed them. He did not think that this was the occasion or place to discuss the large and important questions which the learned gentleman had raised in

L BRO... RIA...

his speech, but he must say that he agreed with the speaker on his right—he alluded to the able member of the Punjab Civil Service who had addressed the meeting—that the landed tenures of the North-Western Provinces had nothing to do with the present distressing state of things in those provinces. Previously to the mutinies great improvement was taking place in the condition of the agricultural classes generally. Then came that terrible storm which swept over the land, carrying destruction of life and property with it. The male population had suffered greatly; numbers of women and children were left destitute. These formed a large proportion of the sufferers whom they were now asked to aid and to assist in supporting. The learned gentleman who had addressed them, seemed to think that emigration was the great panacea for the present state of things; but he (Mr. Harington) could not agree with the learned gentleman. He was at Agra in November last; at that time streams of people were leaving the part of the country, then threatened only with famine, for other places where they hoped to obtain a livelihood. But this was no subject of congratulation. On the contrary, so far as the country was concerned, it was much to be deplored. It was well known that few of those who went would ever return, and the consequence would be, as had been pointed out by Mr. Kilburn, that when rain again fell they would want people to cultivate the land, and large tracts would remain uncultivated for want of cultivators. This was the case after the famine of 1837, when he was in the Upper Provinces; at that time emigration went on to a great extent, and the result had been what he had just mentioned. It was a mistake to suppose that there was a large surplus population in the North-Western Pro-

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vinces. He believed that the Government was doing all that it properly could do at the present time for the relief of the people. It was providing work for them who could work, and he thought that the Government was acting judiciously and wisely giving that work in the neighbourhood of the people's homes, as that when rain fell, the people might at once return to their homes and resume the cultivation of their lands rather than in encouraging emigration to distant places. Private charity on the spot was also doing its work nobly: some of the subscriptions were munificent. But this was not enough. After what they had heard to-day he felt sure that they would agree with him that the occasion was one on which all who could should lend a helping hand and should give liberally. A double obligation seemed to rest on them to do this. Those who were assisting in the spot were themselves suffering more or less from the effects of the present famine. From these we here were happily free, while their fellow subjects in the Upper Provinces were suffering all the miseries of famine, Lower Bengal had been blessed with an abundant harvest· and he repeated, therefore, that a double obligation seemed to rest upon them out of their abundance to give liberally, and whatever they did give they should give promptly, leaving the questions which had been raised in respect to the causes of the present famine to be discussed and settled hereafter. He would now read the Resolution which had been entrusted to him. It was that—

·3*rd Resolution.*—Proposed by H. B. Harington, Esq., seconded by Rajah Kalikrishna Bahadoor:

That the following gentlemen be requested to form a General Committee, with power to add to their number.

The Hon'ble Sir Bartle Frere, K. C. B
The Hon'ble J. P. Grant.
The Hon'ble Sir Barnes Peacock, Kt.
The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Calcutta.
The Hon'ble C. Beadon.
The Hon'ble S. Laing.
H. B. Harington, Esq.
A. Sconce, Esq.
C. J. Erskine, Esq.
H. Forbes, Esq.
The Hon'ble Sir C R. M. Jackson, Kt.
The Hon'ble Sir M. L. Wells, Kt.
The Venerable Archdeacon J. H. Pratt.
The Rev. A. Duff, D. D.
The Rev. H. Hutton.
The Rev. J. Richards.
The Rev. J. C. Herdman.
The Rev. J. Sale.
The Rev. E. Storrow.
The Most Rev. the Vicar Apostolic A. Goiran, D. D.
The Rev. Ter Johannes Catchick.
The Rev. G. Jonnides.
W. Ritchie, Esq.
T. H. Cowie, Esq.
W. Theobald, Esq.
A. T. T. Peterson, Esq.
Macleod Wylie, Esq.
R. Molloy, Esq.
R M. Thomas, Esq.
The Hon. E. Drummond.
C. H. Lushington, Esq.
A. Grote, Esq.

W. Seton-Karr, Esq.
C. Chapman, Esq.
W. Grey, Esq., C. S.
H. V. Bayley, Esq., C. S.
George Lock, Esq., C. S.
C. B. Trevor, Esq., C. S.
S. Wauchope, Esq., C. B.
R. Temple Esq., C. S.
Genl Sir John Hearsey, K. C. B.
Col. J. C. Hannyngton
Col. W. B. Thomson.
Col. E. W. S. Scott.
Col. C. B. Young.
Col. R. Baird Smith, C. B. and A. D. C. to the Queen.
Colonel Balfour.
Major F. D. Atkinson.
Major C. V. Bowie.
Major H. L. Thuillier.
Capt. J. Rennie, C. B.
Capt. J. G. Reddie.
Dr. J. Forsyth.
Dr. A. Macrae.
Dr. J. McPherson.
Dr. N. Chevers.
The Consul for the United States of America.
Ditto for France.
Ditto for Bremen.
Ditto for Denmark.
Ditto for Belgium.
Ditto for Greece.
Ditto for Hamburgh.
Ditto for Hanover.

The Consul for Netherlands.
Ditto for Portugal.
Ditto for Prussia.
Ditto for Sardinia.
Ditto for Spain.
Ditto for Sweden and Norway.
J. O'B. Saunders, Esq.
W. Brett, Esq.
A. Forbes, Esq.
George Smith, Esq.
J. N. Bullen, Esq.
E. D. Kilburn, Esq.
W. S. Fitzwilliam, Esq.
P. T. Ralli, Esq.
J. P. Sagrandi, Esq.
David Cowie, Esq.
George Dickson, Esq.
Seth Apcar, Esq.
W. McAdam Steuart, Esq.
George Brown, Esq.
W. F. Fergusson, Esq.
J. P. McKilligin, Esq.
Edward Palmer, Esq.
George Turnbull, Esq.
J. C. Batchelor, Esq.
G. F. Remfry, Esq.
C. Lazarus, Esq.
F. Jennings, Esq.
C. J. Pittar, Esq.
Rajah Pertaubchunder Singh Bahadoor.
Rajah Radakant Bahadoor.
Rajah Kalikrishna Bahadoor.

Baboo Prosonocomar Tagore.
Baboo Ramanauth Tagore.
Baboo Ramapersad Roy.
Coomar Suttyanund Ghosal.
Manockjee Rustomjee, Esq.
Moonshee Ameer Alli.
Moulvie Abdool Luteef.

The list of the names was very long, and he would not occupy the time of the meeting by going through it. The list would be found to contain the names of members of all classes of the community, and he believed that would give general satisfaction.

Raja Kalikhristna Bahadoor seconded the same.

BABOO RAMAPERSAUD ROY then addressed the meeting as follows :—

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—I have been requested to propose the 4th Resolution, but before doing so I hope you will permit me to say a few words about the present movement and in reference to the landed tenures in the North-Western Provinces, which has been incidentally mentioned by some of the speakers who have preceded me. We are assembled here to-day in the discharge of an agreeable, I may say, a sacred duty. There may be differences in matters of religion, in political contentions, and in various other subjects, but I am sure we are all unanimous as to the great object which has brought us together this evening—that is, to afford relief to the poor and helpless. As regards the movement, I am glad to find that my countrymen have not been backward in taking up the matter. No sooner was the distress caused by the famine known at the Presidency, from the public papers

and official reports, than the leading members of the Native community met, on the 4th January, as appears from the papers, for devising means for affording relief. At that meeting it was at first thought that, as the distress was mainly confined to our countrymen, a subscription should be raised by themselves. But on further consideration that scheme was given up, and that of raising a general subscription from among all classes of the community was adopted. But before the details of the measure were arranged it was intimated that a similar movement had been originated by the Chamber of Commerce and other influential members of the European community. The separate movement was dropqed; and the result of the amalgamation is the present meeting, composed of all classes of the community. It is not necessary to impress upon this meeting the magnitude of distress or the necessity of relieving it. It has been sufficiently described in the official and private letters that have been read to the meeting by the chairman. I have only to appeal to the European and the Native community to contribute largely and liberally to this great charitable object. To the European community I need say little. They have always been pre-eminent and have taken the lead in such matters. They contributed very largely to relieve the famine in 1837, the famine in Ireland, and the destitution in the Highlands, and the Crimean sufferers. I have no doubt that they will follow the same example and come forward with equal zeal and liberality. My own countrymen I would call upon to follow the good example of the Europeans. It is understood that they are apathetic to such calls; but I hope things are changed through closer intercourse with the European community, and I trust that,

inasmuch as they have taken the initiative by moving in the matter first of all, they will not be backward but contribute liberally for their suffering countrymen. Adverting to what has been said on the subject of the landed tenures, it is not my intention to go deep into that matter, or to tread upon political ground. But I cannot allow this opportunity to pass without expressing my dissent from what has been stated by some of the speakers who have preceded me regarding the landed interest in the North-West Provinces. I have travelled a good deal in those provinces both before and after the mutiny, and on a recent occasion I availed myself of the vacation, to visit a great many places in those provinces. And from the opportunities I have had of personal observation and of getting information from the people, I have no hesitation in saying before you that I have observed a marked difference in the state of society, in the present day, in Bengal and the North-West Provinces. In Bengal you see plenty everywhere, while in the North-West Provinces you observe nothing but poverty and destitution. True it is that you meet now and then with a great and rich landholder, but as you leave his house and proceed fifty or a hundred miles, you see mile after mile one stream of poverty and distress. A case has been put to the meeting of a supposed famine in Bengal, and it has been suggested that, in such a case, the assistance of the landholders would be of no use. God forbid such a thing should happen ; but if it should, I have no hesitation in saying that the distress would not be so intense as it is now, and was in 1837, in the Upper Provinces, The effect of the revenue system in the North-West has been to destroy the landed aristocracy, and to reduce the landholders to mere putneedars. And although I do not mean to

say that the present famine is to be chiefly attributed to the defect in the landed tenures of the country, yet I cannot resist the conviction that the fiscal arrangement of a country has much to do with such disasters and the welfare of the people, and that the Government is bound to look into those arrangements. As we are all pressed for time, I shall not go further into this matter, but propose the 4th Resolution.

4th. Resolution.—Proposed by Baboo Ramapersad Roy, seconded by David Cowie, Esq.

That an Executive Committee, consisting of the following gentlemen be appointed from the General Committee to carry out the details of the proposed measures :—

Colonel R Baird Smith.
H. B. Harington, Esq.
W. Grey, Esq.
E. D. Kilburn, Esq.
A. T. T. Peterson, Esq.
Rajah Pertaubcunder Sing Bahadoor.
The Ven'ble Archdeacon J. H. Pratt.
R. Temple, Esq.

(with power to add to their number), and that Mr. H. W. I. Wood, be their Honorary Secretary.

Mr. MacLardy begged to state on behalf of the Ganges Steam Navigation Company that 50 tons of freight per steamer would be afforded free of charge for the conveyance of grain to the North-West.

The following letter was next read from the President of the British Indian Association expressing his interest in the object of the meeting :—

To H. W. I. WOOD, Esq.,

Secretary to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

Sir,—I deeply regret that my indisposition deprives me of the pleasure of attending the meeting to-day, the very highly laudable object of which has also actuated our Society and which I most cordially approve. I shall with extreme gratification lend my humble aid to whatever measures may be adopted for the noble cause of alleviating the miseries of our fellow-countrymen and contribute my mite towards its furtherance.

I cannot sufficiently admire the zeal and benevolence with which the Chamber of Commerce have come forward to lead this movement, for which I offer them my most sincere thanks. Wishing every success to the meeting,

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

RADHAKANT,

President of the B. I. A.

The proceedings of the Meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair, proposed by the Hon'ble Sir Bartle Frere, and carried by acclamation.

Proceedings of a Meeting of the Executive Committee held at the Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, the 22nd August 1861.

1*st.*—Resolved that as the Central Committees at Agra and Lahore have reported that the Funds in their hands are sufficient to meet all demands likely to be made upon

them, the operations of the Calcutta Committee be now closed.

2nd.—That the statement of the accounts of the Calcutta Relief Fund now laid before the Executive Committee by the Honorary Secretary be published for general information.

3rd.—That a meeting of the General Committee be called for Saturday, the 31st instant, for the purpose of examining and passing the above accounts, and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before the meeting.

4th.—Resolved that the Executive Committee do gratefully acknowledge by a special vote of thanks the gratuitous and unceasing exertions of their Honorary Secretary Mr. H. W. I. Wood, Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce. They are indebted to Mr. Wood for the promptitude and regularity of their collections, the order of their accounts, and the general management of their business concerns in which the labour has been great, and they consider him to merit most fully the only reward he will accept, the cordial acknowledgments of the Committee.

5th.—Resolved that the special thanks of this Committee be also given to the Bengal Printing Company for their uninterrupted aid in gratuitously executing the whole of the Printing work required by the Committee of which the quantity has been very considerable.

6th.—Resolved that thanks be voted to the Chair.

The Executive Committee beg to report for the information of the General Committee that the intelligence received from the Central Relief Committees at Agra and Lahore is now so encouraging that it is hoped and believed that

the heaviest pressure of the famine has passed away. There must be some uncertainty on the point for about a month or six weeks longer, but the general aspect of the country is such as to have laid the local authorities to declare themselves sufficiently prepared to meet any contingencies that are likely to arise.

The Executive Committee have accordingly thought it expedient to convene this meeting with a view to the final closure of Famine Relief operations in Calcutta.

From the time of their appointment on the 21st of January 1861, the Executive Committee have collected an aggregate sum of Rs. 9,43,011-2-3 for the benefit of the sufferers from the famine. This amount has been received from different quarters in the following proportions:—

Local subscriptions paid to the Committee	...	Rs.	2,51,391	8 11
London General Committee	...	„	5,04,378	12 5
Provincial Committees in England	...	„	1,63,740	14 11
British Colonies	...	„	23,499	14 10
Grand Total,		Rs.	9,43,011	2 3

The amount so collected has been distributed as follows:—

Remitted to Central Relief Committee at Agra	...	Rs.	3,59,000	0 0
Ditto ditto at Lahore	...	„	5,75,000	0 0
Current Expenses	...	„	3,954	0 1
Total	...	Rs.	9,37,954	0 1
Balance	...	„	5,057	2 2
Grand Total,		Rs.	9,43,011	2 3

Subsequent subscriptions amounting to			Rs.	57,401	1 3
increased the above balance of		...	„	5,057	2 2
to	...	...	„	62,458	3 5
of which was remitted to Agra,		...	„	20,000	0 0
and to Chunar	...	...	„	5,669	10 6
charges, &c., absorbed	...	...	„	1,071	6 1
and the remainder	...	...	„	35,717	2 10

was transferred to the Government of India in trust for any future similar necessity.

Rs.	62,458	3	5

H. W. I. Wood.

6th March 1862.

The accounts in detail, duly audited, are submitted for the consideration and approval of the General Committee. So soon as one doubtful item can be finally adjusted, the amount will be remitted to Agra and Lahore, and the books of the Committee be finally cleared.

The Executive Committee venture to hope that in now rendering this final account of their proceedings they may not have disappointed the expectations of the General Committee and of their fellow citizens in the results they have effected for the sufferers by the great calamity now happily at an end.

They bespeak the attention of the General Committee to the unwearied and most successful labours of their Hono-

rary Secretary, to whom they feel that much of what they have accomplished is justly to be attributed

On behalf of the Executive Committee,

R. BAIRD SMITH, *Chairman.*

Calcutta, 31st August 1861.

The following Resolutions of the General Committee of the Calcutta Famine Relief Fund were unanimously adopted at their final meeting on the 31st August 1861 :—Colonel R. Baird Smith, C. B., in the Chair.

1*st.*—Resolved that the proceedings of the Executive Committee be confirmed, and their accounts, as audited by Messrs. J. H. Fergusson and J. R. Bullen Smith, be passed.

2*nd.*—Resolved that the special thanks of this meeting be given to the Executive Committee for their careful attention to and successful management of the affairs of the Relief Fund.

3*rd.*—Resolved that the hearty thanks of the General Committee are due to Colonel Baird Smith for the zeal and energy with which, as their President, he has directed the measures of the Executive Committee.

4*th.*—Resolved that the grateful thanks of this meeting be conveyed through the Chairman to the Right Honorable the Lord Mayor and the London General Committee for their earnest and most successful co-operation in mitigating the miseries of the famine. This meeting, as representing all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in India, desires to record its conviction that the munificent charity of the English people towards the people of India on this occasion has produced moral as well as material results of the highest importance and likely to be of permanent effect.

5*th.*—Resolved that the grateful thanks of this meeting be similarly conveyed to the Indian Famine Relief Committee of Dublin, Edinburgh, Liverpool, Glasgow, Manchester, and such other places in England as have co-operated in promoting the objects of the Fund.

6*th.*—Resolved that the Colonial contributions be also gratefully acknowledged.

7*th.*—Resolved that the special thanks of this meeting be conveyed to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for the assistance they have rendered to the Committee in granting them the use of their Hall and otherwise cordially supporting their operations.

8*th.*—Resolved that this meeting cordially adopts and confirms the 4th Resolution of the Executive Committee at their meeting on the 22nd instant, acknowledging the valuable services of their Honorary Secretary Mr. H. W. I. Wood.

9*th.*—That thanks be voted to the Chair.

BAIRD SMITH TESTIMONIAL.

Extract from Report of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, 6th May 1861.

The Famine in the N. W. Provinces and the Punjab.

Your Committee were no sooner satisfied that the necessity existed for taking measures for the relief of the people in the famine-stricken districts than they availed themselves of the opportunity of prompting the movement which led to the public meeting held in the Chamber's Hall on the 21st January. With the success of that movement members are so familiar that the Committee need only record their gratification with the result of the appeal to public sympathy and assistance in behalf of the unfortunate sufferers, and to express their gratitude for the generous response with which that appeal has been met by all classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

Deputation of Colonel Baird Smith, C. B., to the Famine-stricken District.

The effects of the calamity which has overtaken so many thousands of the population of the Upper Provinces have not been unfelt even at this distance from the scenes of distress. The scarcity and high prices of food consequent on the failure of the last rain crops in some of the most important districts of the North-West, and the threatened deficiency of the cold weather crops, owing to the limited area of land which the want of rain would render

it possible to bring under cultivation, were causes popularly assigned for the almost paralysed state of the large up-country marts for British manufactures; and the result has been a severe depression of the ordinary trade between Calcutta and those places of consumption. In these calamities a sufficient reason was recognised for the serious falling off in the demand for the distressed districts, but the Committee were of opinion that other causes contributed to the condition in which that diminished demand existed, and feeling the importance of arriving at a correct appreciation of the circumstances which conduced to such depression of trade, the Committee considered it necessary to suggest to the Government of India the expediency of deputing some experienced person to proceed to the North-West for the purpose of specially reporting on the actual state of the distressed districts, and giving the fullest information procurable as to the causes which have reduced the markets for British manufactures to their present state of stagnation, and on all points bearing on the future prospects of trade in and with those districts. It appeared to your Committee that no one could be found better qualified for such a duty than Colonel Baird Smith, who had had many years' local experience of that part of India, which, combined with a very sound judgment on the commercial bearings of the question, would enable him to draw up a report of great value both to the Government and the commercial public.

The Committee's suggestion and nomination had the approval of Government; and Colonel Baird Smith proceeded early in February to undertake the service in which he is now actively engaged.

In their last Report the Committee entered fully into the circumstances which induced them to suggest the deputation of Colonel Baird Smith to the North-Western Provinces, and the mission of this distinguished officer has been productive of the most valuable results. No reports ever furnished by members of the Indian Services, abounding as the latter have done at all times in men of high ability, has exhibited more patient research, striking reflections, or sounder conclusions. They form a text book for the use of future enquiries into the state of the country, the condition of the people, and the modes by which agriculture may be improved and commerce extended to the advancement of the common good. They show that it is not only possible but perfectly easy to reconcile the claims of the trading and mercantile classes with the true interests of Government and of the native races; and it is a knowledge of these facts which has impressed the Chamber with a sense of deep obligation first to Colonel Baird Smith, and secondly to the Government which permitted him to enter upon the task that has been so thoroughly accomplished.

It was but an inadequate token of their gratitude and respect that the Chamber offered to Colonel Baird Smith in the shape of a testimonial; but they believe that it was accepted in the spirit which dictated it, and they have the pleasure of saying that the Governor General in Council was good enough to suspend, in this case, the operation of the rule which prohibits servants of the State from receiving such gifts.

The correspondence and other details relative to this interesting subject will be found in the appendix.

The Committee took measures to republish and circulate the report at home among members of both Houses of Parliament, and all the leading commercial associations in the United Kingdom, with the view of drawing the attention of the public to its important contents: and the result is shown in the influence it has had in framing the arguments and speeches of many of the prominent men who have lately spoken on Indian affairs.

PRESENTATION OF TESTIMONIAL.

On the 24th September 1861 the Members of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and a numerous assemblage of the mercantile community of Calcutta met at the Chamber of Commerce to witness the presentation to Colonel Baird Smith of a testimonial and its accompanying address. The testimonial, consisting of a handsome and massive service of plate, was laid out on a table in the large hall: it was composed of a large centre cup, a salver, and a tea and coffee service; each piece bearing its own inscription of presentation, the order of the Bath, and the heraldic bearings of the gallant Colonel. At 11 o'clock Colonel Baird Smith arrived, and, after the usual ceremony of introduction, the President of the Chamber opened the proceedings with the following words:—

Colonel Baird Smith—The testimonial which, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor General, I have now the honor on the part of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce to present you, very inadequately represents the high estimate which that body have placed upon the eminent services you have recently rendered them. I refer

to the report which you, at their request, have made, with the permission of the Government, as to the effect produced by the late famine in the North-Western Provinces upon the trade of that country, especially that more immediately connected with Calcutta. The Chamber feel, Sir, that the enquiries which you have made and the information which you have furnished are of great importance and value, not only to Bengal but to the commercial interests of India generally. They also believe that your report has been, and will continue to be, the means of awakening our countrymen at home as to what is needed to fully develope the resources of this great country and render them available to the commerce of the world.

Commerce has always been the companion and often the pioneer of civilization, and there is good reason to hope that, aided by eminent men like yourself, they will be found successfully working together in the promotion of the happiness and prosperity of the people of this country and thereby securing their loyalty and affection to its rulers.

I have now, Sir, the pleasure of reading to you the address of the Chamber.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Calcutta, 24th September 1861.

COL. R. BAIRD SMITH, C. B., A. D. C. TO THE QUEEN,

H. M.'s Regiment of Bengal Engineers.

SIR,—Among the many important subjects which at all times engage the attention of commercial men of this city none are of greater interest than the consideration of

the condition and circumstances of the people of Upper India, and the study of the varying influences which affect the trade between the chief provincial towns and the capital of the country upon which they are dependent for supplies of British manufactures.

The development and expansion of that trade during the last ten years have been on a scale of remarkable magnitude: stimulated by the increasing requirements of an immense consuming population in India the manufacturing industry of England has been fully employed; and the rapid progress of commercial enterprise continued undisturbed until rebellion checked its vigorous, healthy and successful action.

Recovering from the destructive influences of that calamity, trade revived with unparalleled activity, and its future course appeared free from all obstruction to satisfactory and compensating results, when it was again arrested by causes beyond human foresight and control; and a desolating famine in the populous districts of Hindostan paralysed the ordinary commerce of the country.

It need not be told with what concern they who were engaged in the trade with those districts contemplated the effects of this most disastrous visitation upon the large interests involved therein, and how every indication of its mitigation was anxiously watched, for in the suspension of consumption, the heavy accumulation of importations, and the unusual depression of a hitherto buoyant market, the results to them were material beyond measure.

Assigned popularly to the severity of the famine it was nevertheless apprehended that this stagnation of trade might have been produced by other causes, and it was con-

sidered essential to arrive at a correct appreciation of whatever may have contributed to that condition. Impressed with the necessity of ascertaining a point of so much interest to the commercial public, the Chamber of Commerce suggested to the Government of India the expediency of deputing an officer to proceed to the famine-stricken districts with the special object of reporting upon their actual state and the circumstances which had conduced to results so unfavourably affecting the trade of this city. Such a report drawn up by one conversant with the subject and having access to the sources of information which Government could place at his disposal would, in the opinion of the Chamber, be extremely valuable to the mercantile community, and enable them to judge with some degree of accuracy of the probability of an early revival of trade with the important marts of the Upper Provinces : and for the purposes of that inquiry the Chamber hoped the Government would be in a position to make your own services available, because they were confident that your great local experience of those districts, your sound judgment on the commercial bearings of the question, and your ability to deal with the difficulties attending such a mission peculiarly qualified you for the task.

The Government of India promptly assented to the Chamber's proposal,—the President in Council being of opinion that accurate and comprehensive information regarding the state of the districts afflicted with famine, as well as of those in their immediate vicinity, with special reference to the influence which the calamity might have upon the import trade of Bengal, could not fail to be of great value ; and His Honor concurred in the belief that

the necessary enquiries could be entrusted to no one more likely than yourself to conduct them in a manner which would give satisfaction to all concerned. Your services were accordingly rendered available for this special employment.

Cheerfully accepting the duty thus imposed upon you,—a duty totally foreign to your own official appointment of Master of the Calcutta Mint—you proceeded without delay to the North-Western Provinces: you visited the cities of Benares, Mirzapore, Allahabad, Cawnpore, Lucknow, Furruckabad, Agra, Muttra and Delhi, and other places to which your researches led you; journeying through the length and breadth of the famine tracts, and seeking information from every source and from every class, you gathered together a mass of materials for your future conclusions; and finally you were enabled, in your report of 8th May, to submit to Government the results of a diligent and laborious investigation.

This report, replete with information of the most valuable character, has been accepted as an elaborate exposition of the various causes which have conduced to the serious depression of trade long prevailing and still existing: it abounds with details and illustrations of considerable interest, with useful statistical returns of provincial traffic, and with profitable suggestions on the numerous points elicited in the course of your enquiry.

You have accomplished your task with an enthusiastic appreciation of its importance, and with an ability distinguished by a broad and clear comprehension of the object of your mission, and by the energetic application of the resources of an enlightened mind: and the success which

has attended your labors in this new field of exertion has added largely to the high reputation you have already won in your honorable career.

To acknowledge the service you have thus rendered to the commercial public, to testify their estimation of its great value, and to record, in this address, the expression of their gratitude, is now the gratifying duty of the Chamber of Commerce.

They assure you, they feel deeply the obligation which you have conferred upon them, and they now tender you their most hearty thanks, accompanied by the gift which with the permission of His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, they have the honor to present to you, and which they offer for your acceptance as a token of their esteem, and in recognition of your meritorious service on their behalf.

For the Bengal Chamber of Commerce,
W. S. FITZWILLIAM,
President.

After the address had been read, the President remarked that it might be satisfactory to Colonel Baird Smith to hear the terms in which the Government of India had expressed their approval of the presentation of the testimonial. He then read the following letter:—

FROM W. GREY, ESQ.,
Secy. to the Govt. of India,

To H. W. I. WOOD, ESQ.,
Secy. to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

Dated Fort William, Aug. 28, 1861.

"SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your

Home Department.

letter dated the 21st instant, in which the Bengal Chamber of Commerce request the sanction of Government to their presenting Colonel Baird Smith with a testimonial in recognition of the manner in which he had conducted the enquiry into the causes of the depressed state of trade between Bengal and the Upper Provinces which, at the request of the Chamber of Commerce, he was deputed by Government to make.

2. In reply I am directed to state that though it is opposed to the orders of Government .that public officers should accept presents or complimentary addresses in connection, directly or indirectly, with the discharge of their official duty, the Governor General in Council thinks the present case sufficiently peculiar and exceptional to warrant a deviation from the rule. His Excellency in Council considers that the compliment which the Chamber wishes to pay to Colonel Baird Smith has been well earned, and he is pleased to permit him to receive it.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
W. GREY,
Secy. to the Govt of India.

Colonel Baird Smith then said :—

Mr. President and Gentlemen,—I heartily wish that nature had gifted me with, or practice trained me to, a readier power of speech than I possess, that I might have acknowledged less imperfectly than I am able to do the high compliment you have paid me in the remarks with which you have prefaced the reading of the address just completed.

But however imperfectly the forms of expression may be, there is no shortcoming in the feelings which prompt them, I am deeply sensible of the honor the Chamber has conferred upon me in the judgment it has pronounced on the value to commerce of the work I have lately had to do. It is the judgment of the body which represents the commercial intelligence of the capital of India, and I receive it with the respect and gratitude which are due to it.

It will be most gratifying to me, Sir, to find that the prospects of more than local usefulness you anticipate from my work are likely to be realised; they will be the best fruits it can produce.

With your permission, I will now read the formal reply I hold in my hand to the address with which the Chamber has honored me:—

To

W. S. FITZWILLIAM, Esq.,

President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

Calcutta, 24th September 1861.

Sir,—It is with feelings of sincere gratitude and cordial appreciation that I acknowledge the honor done me by the Chamber of Commerce in presenting me with this address and gift, which the Government of India has been pleased, on your application, to permit me to accept. Both will be to me and mine the treasured memorials of a high and rare distinction, and my grateful sense of the manner in which the merchants of Calcutta have received and valued the work which, on this occasion, it was my special duty to do, must ever be very deep and true.

I must however be allowed to explain how much that work has been facilitated by their assistance. It was with

your respected predecessor, the late President of the Chamber —Mr. J. N. Bullen—that the first thought of my deputation to the North-West Provinces originated. It was by him and his temporary successor, Mr. Edward Kilburn, that the matter was brought before the Government, and so recommended it was sure of an attentive consideration. It was from the Committee of the Chamber, and from no one more effectively than from yourself, that I received advice so suggestive and discriminating that its practical worth grew the greater the more the subject developed itself in the course of my enquiries. It was from confidential correspondence with mercantile friends in Calcutta that help was obtained in the solution of many of the anomalies and difficulties met with ; and it is my most pleasant duty to acknowledge now with the heartiest gratitude the great debt I owe to the Chamber for their constant and varied aid.

I have only to add that so uniformly and so kindly has your own interest in my work been shown that its recognition by the Chamber receives an added grace in reaching me through your hands.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient and grateful servant,

R. BAIRD SMITH, *Colonel,*

H. M. Bengal Engineers.

BAIRD SMITH MEMORIAL.

Extract from Report of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, 6th May 1862.

In their last half-yearly report the Committee dwelt upon the results of Colonel Baird Smith's mission to the Upper Provinces, and recorded their sense of the deep obligations conferred by him on the trading and mercantile classes of India; and how imperfectly the gratitude of this Chamber was expressed in the address and testimonial presented to him in September last.

The Committee have again occasion to refer to that distinguished officer, but the reference is now made in heartfelt sorrow, for by his untimely and lamented death the State has lost one of its most valuable servants, and the commercial public an able and intelligent exponent and advocate of their interests. The Committee took the earliest opportunity of recording their sense of the great loss thus sustained, and the following resolution was adopted at their meeting of the 18th December:—

The Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce have received the mournful intelligence of the death of Colonel Baird Smith with feelings of profound regret, and they deplore with unfeigned sorrow the termination of a life so valuable, and a career of public usefulness thus early and prematurely brought to a close.

They desire to record their admiration of the high reputation which Colonel Baird Smith established for himself by a rare combination of varied attainments, and by the unceasing application of an intellectual and scientific mind to objects and questions of national interest and importance.

For the special service so recently rendered by him in the cause of commercial enterprise, the memory of Colonel Baird Smith will be ever gratefully cherished by all who have at heart the welfare and advancement of this country; and the Committee, as representing the mercantile section of the community of this Presidency, mark their sense of the loss sustained by his untimely death, by paying this tribute of respect and regret.

In recording the foregoing resolution the Committee were conscious that they failed adequately to express the tribute so justly due to the memory of one of the most eminent men who ever adorned the public service of this country; and while they abstained from any allusion to his relations in private life they felt that few men have been more beloved or more regretted than Colonel Baird Smith.

Rapidly failing health compelled Colonel Baird Smith to leave Calcutta in the hope of its restoration by an immediate return to Europe, but it had been so greatly impaired that nothing could save his valuable life. He died on the 13th December 1861 at sea, and his remains were interred in the General Cemetery at Madras.

A few of the friends of the late Colonel Baird Smith met yesterday at Sir Bartle Frere's, to consider what proposals for a memorial of that distinguished man should be put before the public.*

It was agreed that the most appropriate manner in which to commemorate the public regard for Colonel

* *Present:*
H. Forbes, Esq. (In the chair.)
W. Grey, Esq.
W. S. Fitzwilliam, Esq.
Lieut.-Colonel Yule.
" " Thuillier.
" " Goodwyn.
Major Chesney.
(Sir Bartle Frere was unavoidably absent.)

Smith would be the erection of a monument in the Cathedral, and that if the funds collected should exceed the amount required for a worthy monument, the surplus should be devoted to the erection of a Tablet in the Church of Lasswade, Colonel Baird Smith's native parish.

It was agreed also that each of the gentlemen present should undertake to circulate subscription lists, that the proposals should be announced in the newspapers, and that, in view to embracing as many of Colonel Smith's friends as possible, subscriptions should not exceed two gold-mohurs.

Finally, it was agreed that the following gentlemen should constitute a Committee for carrying out the object, and that Mr. Wood should be invited to undertake the honorary office of Secretary : —

In Calcutta Sir Bartle Frere; H. Forbes, Esq ; W. S. Fitzwilliam, Esq.; Lieut.-Colonel Thuillier; George Turnbull, Esq.; T. Wilson, Esq., M D.; J. H. Butler, Esq.; Lieut.-Colonel Goodwyn; Lieut.-Colonel Yule; Captain Hyde; J. F. Shekelton, Esq.; D. Mackinlay, Esq ; John N. Bullen, Esq.; Wm. Grant, Esq.; David Cowie, Esq.; H. W. I. Wood, Honorary Secretary.

Gya.....Lieut.-Colonel W. Maxwell.
Allahabad..... W. Muir, Esq.
Roorkee.....Lieut.-Colonel Turnbull.
Agra.....Harry Marten, Esq.
Lahore.....Lieut.-Colonel R. Maclagan.
Nynee Tal.....Lieut.-Colonel W. Morton.
Madras.....J. Sanderson, Esq.
„ .....W. R. Arbuthnot, Esq , President, Chamber of Commerce.

Bombay.....J. N. Fleming, Esq., President, Chamber of Commerce.

,, ...M. H. Scott, Esq., Vice-President, Ditto.

H. FORBES,

Chairman.

Calcutta, Christmas Day, 1861.

With the subscriptions thus publicly invited and raised the Committee were enabled—with the assistance rendered by Baird Smith's cherished friend Colonel Henry Yule—to erect a monument in St. Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta; and another in the Church yard of Lasswade which commemorates the virtues of the lamented Baird Smith and of his aged Father, Dr. Smith, of that Parish.

From the "FRIEND OF INDIA," 19*th December* 1861.

COLONEL BAIRD SMITH.—In proportion to their numbers probably no corps in the world have produced so many distinguished men as the Indian Engineers. To the scientific training of its officers, always the intellectual *elite* of the army, has been given the boundless career which only the East affords. In Bengal, in Madras and Bombay the Engineers have not only constructed works more gigantic in their extent and beneficial in their results on the well-being of the people than are to be found elsewhere; not only have undertaken the defence or the capture of fortresses and cities in circumstances that almost defied science and courted despair; but have given to the civil administration of the country some of its highest and most valuable officials. Colonel Baird Smith, whose pre-

mature death India deplores, was not only as much distinguished as a soldier and engineer as any of his contemporaries or predecessors, but manifested a versatility of mind, and a grasp of the most difficult social and political questions, which few possessed. Not forty-five years of age, had he been spared to return to India with increased powers and enlarged experience, there is no position open to an Indian official to which he could not have aspired, none which he would not have adorned. The son of a country doctor in Lasswade, a village whose beauty Christopher North has immortalised in his writings, Baird Smith presents to the youth of England one of the most striking of those examples in which India abounds, of the truth that ability, united with stern rectitude, untiring industry and self conscious modesty, may grasp the highest honors, and leave its mark on all time in the improvement of the human race.

Baird Smith's Indian career, thus prematurely cut short, extends over a quarter of a century. Attached at first to the Madras Engineers he exchanged into the Bengal Corps, and till the first Sikh War was employed in the Canal administration of the North-Western Provinces under Sir Proby Cautley. There he acquired a knowledge of tenures, and an experience in questions of irrigation, which he extended by a study of the great works of Northern Italy during his furlough to Europe, and on his return by a visit to the deltas of Southern India where Sir A. Cotton had won his greatest triumphs. The results of his study of both he published in volumes which are the standard authorities on the subject. His extended knowledge he brought to bear on the completion and administration of the Ganges Canal, and in the superintendentship of the whole irrigation system

of the North-West he succeeded his great master. Hardly were the mutiny campaigns at an end when he was rewarded with the equally easy and dignified post of Master of the Calcutta Mint. The early signs of coming famine had no sooner appeared, than his intimate knowledge of the districts likely to be affected and of the principles involved, led him with singular prescience to predict its extent and suggest remedies for its mitigation. Not quite a year ago, in the columns of this journal he wrote that remarkable paper " the Famine and its Palliatives," which was adopted by the Calcutta Committee as their appeal, and roused England to its generous effort for relief. How little he spared himself during his tour in the afflicted districts in the heats and rains of so severe a season his reports show. The disease under which he sank was fastened on him by exposure in tents to the rain. On the publication of his last and greatest report he sought rest and health in the quiet of Serampore. Perhaps his highest title to a niche in Indian history, is that report to which India owes a fee-simple tenure and to which the North-West will yet be indebted for a permanent settlement. The friend and admirer of Thomason, and trained up in the mistaken administrative system which was long that Governor's title to admiration but collapsed with much else in 1857, Baird Smith's European experience and masculine intellect rejected its errors and with reverent hand exposed its fallacies.

His professional reputation was only less, in our eyes, than his achievements as a practical Political Economist. In the Sutlej and Punjab campaigns, at Roorkee on the outbreak of the mutiny, and still more at the siege of Delhi, he was ever the foremost. In action as in adminis-

tration, with the sword as with the pen, he was equally ready. On his return to Calcutta in 1858 we induced him to promise, for the pages of the *Calcutta Review*, a professional sketch of the capture of Delhi contrasted with the great sieges recorded in history. Lovingly he set to the work, and as it grew upon him he begged that he might be allowed to devote to it a book. He had, we believe, completed one-half of the task when the Famine interfered and he looked forward to his enforced visit to England for the leisure which would enable him worthily to complete his record of the greatest event in the military annals of India.

The son-in law of De Quincey, of nothing did he delight to talk more than the life and works of the most exquisite writer of English since Goldsmith. Much read and much travelled in Europe, America and the East, his powers of conversation were most extensive, though from his modesty and desire to learn as well as to teach he did not always do himself justice. Whether as the friend, the soldier, or the thinker it will be long ere Baird Smith is forgotten. His widow and family when, on their arrival, they learn the sad news of their loss, will find consolation in the fact that India mourns with them.

MEAD FUND.

From the Friend of India, 11th September 1862.

ONE of the most lamentable accidents which ever threw gloom over Calcutta occurred on Saturday morning. The Agent of the Oriental Inland Steam Company had invited a large party to a private trial trip of the new steamer *Ganges*. Passengers were to embark at Prinsep's Ghât at 8 A. M. Among those who were somewhat late were Messrs. H. Mead, Editor of the *Hurkaru*; young Mr. T. E. B. Judge, the well-known Solicitor; Mr. Coe, a broker, Messrs. J. B. Roberts, Clarton, Harper, Walls and Milner and Captain Leisk. They pushed off to the steamer in Mr. Roberts' police bhoulia which, unlike most of these very unsafe boats, had a keel and was not so liable to become topheavy. The current was running down at six miles an hour. Failing to reach the steamer at first, the boat then came across her bows, the rope parted, she was carried on to the paddle wheel and in the rush of water was engulphed. The three first whom we have named, Messrs. Mead, Judge and Coe, were drowned, and the body of only the first has as yet been recovered. The trial trip was of course postponed. Mr. Judge had made many friends and leaves a widow and four children. Mr. Mead leaves a widow for whom the *Hurkaru* proprietory have promised to provide, while the public of Calcutta show their appreciation of her husband's talents by a liberal subscription which the Viceroy and his staff have headed. Subscriptions will be received by Mr. H. W. I. Wood, of the Chamber of Commerce. From Madras, where Mr. Mead was best known, they ought to be liberal. The accident affected the

whole community and threw a gloom over the public meeting which was held in the afternoon.

Mr. Henry Mead's death is a loss to Indian Journalism. Seldom do we find combined in one writer the accurate and extensive information, the pleasing style, the genial humour and the kindliness of tone which characterised his contributions to the press. Mr. Mead was best known in the early part of his Indian career as Editor of the *Madras Athenæum*, which he left to engage in unfortunate mercantile speculations in Burmah. At one time he edited the *Delhi Gazette*. His connexion of a few months with the *Friend of India* in 1857 will always be remarkable for the article which he wrote on The Centenary of Plassey. For expressing a hope that ere another century came round India might be Christian, the Government of the time "warned" this journal under the Press Gagging Act, and subsequently, on Mr. Mead's reply to the warning, resolved to stop it altogether in the absence of its proprietor in England, unless Mr. Mead ceased to write. After a chequered career in England and Ceylon Mr. Mead was appointed Editor of the *Hurkaru* and was fast making it, instead of the greatest enemy in the guise of a friend the non-official community of Bengal had, a most valuable because discreet and intelligent supporter of the cause of progress. We regret deeply the sudden removal of one of the few editors in India who had learned to eschew personalities, and to observe that professional etiquette without which the Press loses all influence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BENGAL HURKARU.

DEAR SIR,—The subscription raised for the widow of Mr. Henry Mead, late Editor of the *Bengal Hurkaru*,

having closed with the result shown in the following memorandum of account; and as it may be interesting to subscribers to know how their contributions have been applied, I submit this statement for their information:—

Amount subscribed				...Rs. 22,143	4 0
Interest on ditto				... ,, 98	6 0
				...Rs. 22,241	10 0
Payments to Mrs. Mead ...		352	13 0		
Remitted one year's estimated income in advance £150		1,500	0 0		
Petty expenses ...		270	9 2		
	Rs.	2,123	6 2		
Balance remitted through the Oriental Bank for investment ...		20,118	3 10		
				—Rs. 22,241	10 0

The remittance of Rupees 20,118-3-10, or £2,011-16-6, has been invested in the purchase of a Government Annuity, and the income thus secured amounts to £132 per annum.

For this result Mrs. Mead is most truly and deeply grateful; and she begs me to express her heartfelt thanks to those who so generously contributed to her great necessities and have made the permanent provision I have now the pleasure to announce.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

H. W. I. WOOD.

Calcutta, 15th April 1863.

LANCASHIRE DISTRESS RELIEF FUND.

From "THE ENGLISHMAN" *of 7th November* 1862.

THE long-delayed Meeting in behalf of the sufferers in the English Cotton Districts was held last evening in the Town Hall, when the admirable arrangements for its conduct reflected the highest credit upon the Executive Committee, and the crowded assemblage proved how widely the urgency of the occasion was felt among all classes. At nine o'clock every section of the community, European and Native, was fully represented in the crowded Hall; and a few minutes after that hour His Excellency the Viceroy arrived and took his chair upon the platform, surrounded by leading members of his Government as well as of the professional and general non-official community, including several native gentlemen. The interest of the Meeting was heightened by the presence of a large number of ladies.

The Sheriff of Calcutta having read the requisition convening the Meeting—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY, who was received with loud applause, said:—The circumstances which have brought us together this evening are painfully present to the minds of all of us who are here assembled; so much so, indeed, as to render it unnecessary for me to occupy your attention at any length, or in fact to do more than remind you of the purpose for which we have met. (Applause.) I am sure also that were it necessary to offer any matters of detail in order to stimulate your zeal in the cause, the gentlemen who will follow me would relieve me

of all difficulty. When, indeed, I look round me and see the distinguished personages who surround me on this platform, and whose support I may rely on in discharging the duty of your Chairman; when among them I recognize statesmen who have already rendered great services to India, and those who give promise of a future career which will entitle them to a nation's gratitude, I feel still more how much lighter my task will be. (Hear, hear). I gather also the same confidence from seeing round me a class of gentlemen, independent so far as regards the conduct of any public officers, but who have gained an honorable name in commercial pursuits. (Hear, hear). I recognize them as the representatives of a class who are endeavouring to apply in India that capital, enterprize, and energy which is the characteristic of the British character. (Hear, hear). I see others again who have gained distinction by labours which have involved a life-long struggle against ignorance and the vice and crimes that arise from ignorance, men who labour with a zeal that never flags, and who speak with an eloquence never known to fail, and who cannot fail to find that in the future their efforts will have borne fruit. (Hear, hear). Thus surrounded, I feel that the task which has devolved upon me as your Chairman is but a light one; but nevertheless, I trust that I may be permitted to say at the outset, and I speak merely for myself, that it is to me a source of sincere gratification to preside at such a meeting as this, and to find that, notwithstanding the occurrences of a few years ago, the object we have in view is supported as to-night by all classes and conditions of our fellow-subjects. (Hear, hear). I cannot avoid saying that in this matter a debt of gratitude is due to the Chamber of Commerce and my excellent friend Mr. Bullen, for the prelimi-

nary efforts they have made by collecting subscriptions to relieve our famishing countrymen. At the same time I feel happy in having this opportunity of expressing the sense I entertain of the interest and sympathy which has been exhibited in this cause by native gentlemen. (Hear). Several chiefs have given most handsome subscriptions, and only quite recently I have received information from the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjaub that he has remitted to the Lord Mayor of London Rs. 20,000 subscribed by the chiefs of Puttiala, Jheend, and Nubha. It is well that we should be thus reminded that whatever differences there may be between individuals or between races, it is shewn on this occasion that we are all united in one common bond—that of aiding suffering and misfortune. (Hear, hear). It is a remarkable fact, and an instructive one, that our own language in the very expression "humanity" which in its first meaning includes the whole family of mankind, in its second meaning implies this bond which brings together all races and classes of the great family, and that expression is significant of British feeling. (Hear, hear). Who can have forgotten the conduct of the British public during the famine which occurred in the North-West Provinces only two years ago? A large district of India was subjected to a frightful scourage, and when fellow-creatures were in distress, how did the British nation come forward? (Hear, hear). I do not wish to revise or to dwell upon the painful considerations which has rendered it necessary to take steps on behalf of our famishing countrymen in Lancashire; but I think that I have a right to remind you of the charity exercised at home when distress prevailed in this country. There had been occurrences upon which I will not dwell, but this I may

say, that I do not think that it would be too much to assume that relief was received from England from many persons who themselves had been rendered mourners by losses sustained through the passions which were rampant in the evil times to which I have alluded, and I believe much has been given to relieve the sufferers in the North-West by Englishmen who themselves had suffered from occurrences comparatively recent, but who felt that their mite put into the treasury of God would at some time or another bear abundant interest. (Loud applause). I go further, and I say that in my opinion the operatives in Lancashire have claim upon us founded on special grounds. Whether we look to the cause of the calamity which has befallen them or to the heroism with which it has been endured, we must admit that it is a calamity almost without a parallel in the annals of human suffering. It has not been a calamity attributable to any one of those mysterious and overwhelming dispensations of Providence which generally follow imprudence or want of foresight. This calamity has been brought about by causes and by deeds over which the sufferers could have exercised no control, and against which no foresight could have provided. I myself know America well. I have spent there some of the best years of my life, and have received much kindness there; and, interested in the welfare of the people of that country as I naturally must be, I cannot but feel regret when I compare its present condition to its former one. When I see that in a country which was formerly one of the highest appanages of the British Crown the black flag is to be raised, and to float over its once peaceful fields and happy homesteads, I cannot refrain from deeply regretting that such should be the case. (Hear, hear). The spectacle, however, which

we have more especially to contemplate to-night, if a sad one, is an instructive one. From it we cannot fail to draw the lesson that conciliation, mutual support, and forbearance, or even at times compromise, constitute the pivot upon which human affairs turn. There is something inexpressibly sad and heartrending in the consideration that in England there are at present thousands of hard-working, frugal labourers, persons who have been in the habit of laying by year after year something to support themselves should the evil day arrive, or who have saved small sums to purchase some cheap and modest ornaments to add to the comfort of their homes, and that they are now compelled gradually to part with everything. First, with the ornaments I have mentioned, then with their little savings, and finally by becoming stipendiaries, to part with that jewel of great price, perhaps the most precious in their casket, and the one most reluctantly parted with by an Englishman—I mean the sense of self-reliance and honest independence. (Loud applause). There is one thing which this event teaches us which I think should be borne in mind by every employer of labour. We are taught from the conduct of these suffering fellow citizens that now, above all times, all endeavour should be steadily directed towards the improvement and amelioration of the condition of the operative classes. During the last four years great efforts have been made in that direction. Education has been earnestly promoted; laws against combination have been withdrawn. These laws which have removed the restrictions upon the importation of cheap food, changes founded upon the soundest principles of political economy, have been introduced, but more still has to be done. And when we add the consideration that on the other hand restrictions have been

placed on capital by such enactments as the factory Acts, I think we have opened up a very interesting line of thought. There is another consideration which I think ought to weigh with us in India, and which I think would strengthen this appeal in behalf of these suffering and deserving classes, and about which I should like to say a few words if your patience is not exhausted. (Loud cries of hear, hear, and cheers). It has been said that this calamity in England is India's opportunity. Now, I am not going to ask whether or not India, in this crisis, has done all that she ought to have done, nor am I going to discuss the question. This, however, I will say that the Government of India strongly feel that it is their bounden duty to do everything that they can do which can in any way enable India to take advantage of any opportunity which may be afforded her. It has been suggested, in reference to the occasion of our meeting to-night, that a surplus which remains of the fund subscribed at home should be now applied to relieve home distress. I have no hesitation in making this declaration most emphatically that our principles—principles I believe of true political economy, and which should regulate the conduct of statesmen—do not lead us to the conclusion that we can ourselves apply that fund. I do not deprecate discussion. On the contrary, I wish it, and I am grateful to those persons, whether they be public writers or others, who, by applying their reasoning faculties add to the general stock of knowledge on this important subject. I think that as a general rule, and having regard to the interest of truth, discussion as means of influencing opinion is the only true appeal to reason as distinguished from feelings. At the same time discussion should be conducted with calm coolness; but let me not be misunder-

stood. If public writers think that they cannot argue with eloquence without showing feeling, for God's sake let them give utterance to their opinions. It would be much better than to deprive us of the spark which concussion with flint may kindle and which may give rise to illumination from which we may all gather light. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) I would myself rather swallow a whole bushel of chaff than lose the precious grains of truth which may be somewhere or another scattered in it. (Cheers and laughter.) To return, however, to the question of remitting to England the surplus of the fund raised for the relief of the sufferers during the famine of 1860. That was a proposal which met with the frankest and most perfect consideration of the Government of India, and in reference to it I frankly say that the suggestion was a much easier one to make than to be adopted by the Government of India. At the time when that surplus remained it was not impossible that another crisis might occur in which it would prove of great service for the relief of sufferers who might have been considered entitled to aid from it. I am always myself desirous of being perfectly frank, and I take upon myself the responsibility of saying for myself that I did not think that under the circumstances we were justified in so applying that fund. Circumstances, however, have since materially changed, and I have only this day received a communication from Bombay informing me that, thanks to the gracious intervention of Providence, the apprehended drought has not occurred, and there is little probability of any assistance being required from that fund. Under these circumstances we have thought it right to inform the Lord Mayor of London that when the exact amount of surplus is calculated he will be

at liberty to apply it in any way he thinks will meet the views of English subscribers, and if he draw upon us for our suffering fellow-countrymen in Lancashire we will honor the draft.

His Lordship resumed his seat amidst loud and protracted cheering.

THE VENERABLE THE ARCHDEACON OF CALCUTTA moved the first resolution, which was as follows:—

"That this meeting, deeply sympathising with the population of the manufacturing districts in the distress which has overtaken them, through the interruption of the usual supply of raw-cotton from America; and recognising the duty of all fellow-subjects of these suffering people to contribute towards the relief of their distress, resolves that a public subscription be opened for that purpose, and that the funds as collected be remitted for distribution to the Lord Mayor of London."

He said that he supposed that a public meeting had seldom been called upon to adopt a resolution on any subject which had more forcibly appealed to its deepest sympathies than the cause did which had brought them together that evening. The sufferings of the manufacturing districts of Lancashire had now been long before the public; so long, indeed, that he should be merely wasting their time were he to enter upon any lengthy details of this great calamity. He would, however, just refresh their memories, and so strengthen his appeal, by reading one or two statistical facts which he had copied from an English paper, to give the meeting a specimen of the distress they were called on to relieve. He then read a short paper, in which it was stated, that at Blackburn, one of the manufacturing towns, 30,000 operatives were living on charity; at Preston, another of these towns, the relieved were increasing at the

rate of 500 a week ; at Rochdale, 63 out of the 93 mills had shut up, throwing 10,000 people entirely out of work. The increase in 13 unions in Lancashire in one week was 4,670, the aggregate being 1,16,720. And so of other places. This was the state of things two months ago. The picture presented by these facts, he said, was most appalling. How altered were those busy hives of industrious people become from what they were only a few months ago. If death had not begun its work, (which it was to be feared it had), its precursor, starvation, with all its horrors, was hastening them to that doom, except in as far as benevolent efforts, like that which it was the object of this meeting to promote, might check its progress. It was to be remembered, too, that this distress was increasing week by week. The amount of wretchedness which was at that moment being endured by these suffering people was past calculation. The rigour, too, of a northern winter, which those who have long resided in this warm climate did not so readily comprehend, was now come upon them, and its pinching cold must be aggravating their sufferings beyond endurance. Rarely had a case of deplorable suffering on a wide-spread scale so appealed as this did to their deepest sympathies. But the resolution suggested a further light in which they should view this calamity. They ought not to look upon it merely as a case of no doubt very severe suffering, but like any other example of suffering which might appeal to our ordinary feelings of compassion, it should be regarded as a national calamity. They were called upon in the resolution to recognize it to be their duty as fellow-subjects of these sufferers to come to their aid Those manufacturing districts, he said, are in fact the nurseries of our national commerce, and in some respects, then, of our national

greatness. It was to these that Napoleon Bonaparte pointed, when he contemptuously called us a "nation of shopkeepers." But he knew too well that it was mainly from those sources that the materials were indirectly supplied for the maintenance of that power, the weight of which he felt. This calamity, then, was a national one; and they should not call it the *Lancashire* distress, but *England's* distress, in the citadels of her commerce. There were other circumstances, he said, which strengthen this idea, that this calamity should be regarded as national. The troubles they deplored had fallen upon the sufferers not from any fault of their own; indeed, it had been said that the operatives of Lancashire had been so far provident in past years as to save by in the Savings Banks a portion of their earnings; but under this distress these had all vanished. Nor had these troubles sprung from any local peculiarity of the districts where the sufferers live; any peculiarity of climate, any bursting of riverbunds, or other cause which might seem rather to belong to the known liabilities of the country in which the lot of the sufferers was cast. The resolution pointed to America. Unhappy, distracted America! torn to pieces by internal discord, fierce conflict, and bitter animosities; while, through God's good providence, our happy England sits in peace upon the waters. No sword of the enemy had for many a generation disturbed that happy isle; no sword of civil war for many a year. But, as in the story, the garrison which was so strong in its rocky fort, and so well provisioned for a siege of indefinite length, that it could defy all enemies from without, was at last brought low, and every man brought to death by one insidious foe, which scaled the steeps and penetrated into the dwellings,

even the "pestilence which walketh in darkness:" so here, though the horrors of war itself had not visited our land, as they were ravaging America, yet its paralyzing effects had penetrated into our country and brought this distress upon it. Why should it have fallen on Lancashire alone. They should recognize it as a national calamity, and not as a local one; one in which all fellow-subjects of the British rule are equally concerned. It was, he said, that they might brace themselves up more vigorously and more systematically to their great duty of fellow-subjects of the sufferers, that the meeting had been called. And it was wished particularly that their Native fellow-subjects might assist generously in this great necessity. Doubtless the gentlemen he saw before him had already contributed; and therefore in what he might say he made no allusion to individuals. He could not help saying that the lists they had seen published did not show that due admixture of native names with those of Englishmen which might have been looked for. He had been told that it was not the custom of the rich Natives of the east to give money to relieve the distressed; but that they are ready enough, in oriental style, to feed as many of the hungry as would resort to their doors. That might be well. But in these days of enlarged ideas their practices should expand themselves to meet their new circumstances. Addressing the native part of the meeting he told them that they were now fellow-subjects of the British Queen, and that if they would act as such towards their suffering fellow-subjects in other parts of the realm, they had no other way of doing it, in such a case of distress as the present, but by loosening their purse-strings and pouring out of their riches: in no other way could they reciprocate that bounty which

flowed so freely to this country two years ago in the hour of their countrymen's distress from the regions which are now suffering themselves. During that distressing time, he said, he had sat upon the Famine Relief Committee in Calcutta. Associated with them was a native gentleman, with whom, after one of their meetings, he had fallen into conversation upon the benevolence of the work in which they were engaged; and he pointed out to him that Christianity compelled Christians, if they had any conscience, to engage in such undertakings. He replied that the Shasters teach the same: and a day or two afterwards he very obligingly sent him a letter with some *slokas* from the Shasters, beautifully written in the Devenagri and the English below, setting forth, as the gentleman conceived, this great duty. He mentioned the fact, he said, simply to add that nothing would gratify him more on the present occasion than to see the effect of the Shasters, and to find appended to the list a string of some hundreds of names of the wealthy native gentlemen of Bengal, most of whom had built up their fortunes under the protection, and through the commerce, of the British rule.

Mr. J. H. Fergusson said—My Lord, Ladies, and Gentlemen, in seconding the resolution which has just been proposed by the Archdeacon, and in trying to give expression in some degree to the sense entertained by this community of its duty towards suffering Lancashire, I would remark that if ever there was an exceptional case calling for the exercise of ungrudging and large-hearted benevolence, it is the case of those on whose account we are here to-night. It is seldom that large classes of people become involved in very deep distress and poverty which has not been brought about more or less by some fault of their own,

by some great fundamental error in their whole course of life, or by improvidence, extravagance, drunkenness, profligacy, crime, and so forth. But the calamity which we deplore has fallen upon our suffering fellow-subjects in consequence of a state of things over which they have had no control. For if there has been an error in trusting too exclusively to America and to slave labour for the supply of cotton, it has not been the error of the operatives. Nor is this a case where we have cause to fear that we shall be encouraging idleness and imposition; no such doubts need poison the pleasure of giving liberally out of that which God has given to us. There is no question even for us in this country of painstaking and deliberating so that we may well and wisely administer what we give; for I do not think we are in a position to initiate plans of emigration, as has been recommended, with other valuable suggestions, in the columns of a daily paper, by a gentleman for whom I entertain very great respect and esteem; nor can I agree with him that we should encumber our subscriptions with that or with any other condition. It is ours to assist with funds as far as we can; it is for the Committee at home to administer. By all means let arrangements be made to receive monthly subscriptions as well as larger donations. This is a good, practical, and useful suggestion: but if ever *bis dat qui cito dat* was a true saying, it is so in reference to the object for which we have come together. Thousands of honest and industrious working men—men who have well done their share in making England what she is—are thrown, with their wives and children, their aged parents, and other relatives dependent upon them, into the deepest distress, and are enduring the direst privations, from no fault of their own. They have spent their well-earned savings; they

have sold their furniture ; they have sold their clothes ; and they cannot get bread enough to eat. The winter is at hand, and there is no prospect of any mitigation of this state of things. It is to be feared that the whole weight of the calamity has not yet been felt. And these men and their families are suffering, as you will hear more at large, I doubt not, from other speakers to-night, with an uncomplaining resignation which may well make us proud to claim them as our fellow-subjects, whilst it gives an impulse and a justification (to take the lowest ground) to our benevolence that might otherwise have been less universally recognized. Some of us are old enough to remember the riots which have taken place in England and Scotland during similar periods of suffering, in times when a more enlightened home policy had not yet been inaugurated in the councils of the State, and before economic science, hand in hand with Christian philanthropic experience, had shown to the governing and comparatively opulent classes in Great Britain a more excellent way, in times when labour was willingly, even designedly, kept in ignorance of all that can raise it from degradation and misery in this world and in the next. I have no wish to dwell on such reminiscences, nor need I stay to compare the two pictures. Those who have not witnessed what I allude to have heard and read of it, and all can judge of the difference. My Lord, I am not going to ask to-night what others have given, or have not given, in this cause; whether other places and countries ought to give more largely than Calcutta and the Presidency of Bengal; whether this or that class of the community here has or has not contributed its share. Something might be said, and perhaps will be said, on such points. But it seems to me that we are all apt to fall into a habit, some

of us unconsciously, and perhaps unavoidably, of allowing ourselves to be unduly influenced, if not guided, in what we give by the amount that others give, whether it be as classes or as individuals, instead of each one cheerfully and simply contributing according to his means, and his sense of God's goodness to him. Nor do I sympathize with a view which I have heard is entertained, or at all events ventilated, in some quarters, that the public in India, having already come forward liberally in this cause, should not be asked or expected to give any more for the Lancashire operatives until the surplus of the famine fund, said to be some £80,000, has been appropriated for their benefit. My Lord, it is with great pleasure that I have heard to-night that what we are all longing for is now in a fair way at least of coming to pass, and that a large portion of that fund may yet be devoted to the object we all have in view this night. Many an honest Lancashire operative gave his mite to that fund, and would do so again for a famine in India when he has the means ; and none the less will be England's liberality to us when we need it, for the effort made now to overcome any difficulties in the way of setting free so large a sum as even the half of £80,000 to help in the present emergency. But however that may be, of one thing there can be no doubt—that were the whole of that fund available to-morrow, there is need of all that we can contribute besides, and of much more. Why then should we hold back? Gentlemen, the Bible tells us on what very many of us here will reverently acknowledge to be the very highest authority, that "it is more blessed to give than to receive," as though this had been said on purpose to prevent rich men, and men engaged in acquiring riches, from despairing of any other blessedness under the

awful denunciations of abused and hoarded and ill-spent wealth, and the warnings not to trust in riches, which the same Book contains. Nor do I believe there is a man here, whatever may be his religious opinions, who has never experienced either the peculiar satisfaction of giving to a deserving object or the self-reproach of keeping all to hoard or to expend on unworthy gratifications. If a more worthy object can be found, let us give to that in its turn, but to-night let us show our sympathy for the population of the manufacturing districts by contributing freely and liberally towards the relief of their distress.

MR. BULLEN, in moving the second resolution,

That this meeting desires to express its admiration of the exemplary fortitude with which the sufferers have hitherto borne their severe privations, which strengthens, if it were possible, their claims to the assistance of their fellow-subjects,

said, that amidst all the distress which had been referred to by the previous speakers, the one point upon which the mind could dwell with relief was the admirable spirit with which that distress had been borne by the suffering operatives. Anxious for work, but unable to procure it, seeing their little savings, the fruit of years of economy, rapidly melting away, with scarcely a gleam of hope to penetrate the darkness and gloom of the approaching winter, their conduct had been such as to make us proud of being their countrymen. Reduced as many of them were from a position of comparative independence, the fruit of years of honorable toil, to a state bordering on actual want, eking out what little remained of their former savings with the slender grants of the poor-law guardians and such assistance as could be afforded to them by the stewards of such funds as that in aid of which they had met there this

evening, there had been no riot, no disturbances, no increase of crime. Incredible as it would almost appear, were it not vouched for on unimpeachable authority, there had absolutely been a decrease of crime in the manufacturing districts since the pressure of the distress began; and this fact he considered strengthened immensely the claims which these unfortunate people had on their sympathies. Hunger and want had always been considered the fruitful parent of vice and crime, yet here, amidst a distress almost unequalled in extent and severity, crime had actually decreased. But let them hope that this endurance would not be too sorely tried. Starvation or crime was a terrible alternative. Let them hope it would not be presented to them. If it was their duty to suffer patiently, it was no less our duty to endeavour to mitigate it to the best of our ability. Let us do our duty that they may be encouraged to do theirs. The speaker then combated the opinion that this was a mere passing crisis, expressing his belief that peace could not yet be looked for in America, but that even if peace was made to-morrow, so great was the dislocation of the ordinary machinery of trade, and even society itself, throughout the Southern States, that months would elapse before cotton could be made available in quantity sufficient to afford full employment to the manufacturing population. Let them not therefore be deterred from subscribing by such considerations as these, whether in single subscriptions or in monthly payments as had been suggested, and which he was disposed to think best adapted to meet such a case as the present;—let them give to the best of their ability. Every rupee, they might be assured, would be wanted, and would be the means of alleviating much distress. And they might rely that the

remembrance of such assistance would be treasured up in the great heart of the noble sons of toil in manufacturing England, and that they would not be slow in requiting it when prosperity returned to them, should distress again re-visit this country. The speaker then referred to the unexpended balance of the English subscriptions to the Indian Famine Relief Fund remaining in the hands of Government, and expressed his great gratification at His Lordship's communication regarding it. In respect to the correspondence with the Chamber of Commerce he felt bound to say that no one who had read the letter of the Government of India to them, but must have felt that it expressed the only decision possible at the time to the Government which was only a trustee of the fund, which it was impossible to divert from the purpose for which it had been expressly entrusted to them. He was most happy to learn the changed prospect in this respect, and had little doubt that the Lord Mayor would not hesitate under such circumstances in taking upon himself the responsibility suggested in the offer of the Indian Government. He felt equally sure that were it possible to poll the votes of every individual subscriber to this fund, there would be almost, if not entire, unanimity in favor of its being so applied; and that if it were made available for the relief of the present distress, England would not be backward in replacing it, should the time again unhappily come when it was needed in this country. He concluded by calling on the meeting to prove themselves equal to the occasion, and to maintain the character Calcutta had always enjoyed for liberality.

The Reverend Alexander Duff, D. D., said, that after the very powerful statements and cogent reasons laid before

them by preceding speakers, and in view of the late hour of the evening it might appear only reasonable that in what he had to say, he should be as brief as was consistent with the work committed to him. There was comfort for him in the thought that there were occasions on which in that same Hall many of them could remain together till mid-night, or even long after that, for lighter purposes, and it would be a shame to them to suppose that upon an occasion so grand in its philanthropic character they would be unwilling to remain together for a shorter time in that place. [The worthy Doctor then went to work, forgetful of time, and resolved to witch his hearers into a like forgetfulness of it, for though it was four minutes past ten when he commenced his speech, it was ten minutes past eleven when he concluded it, and we are, with regret, obliged to abandon any attempt at following him through an hour of pathetic appeals and brilliant imagery.] Flinging to the winds, he said, all extraneous matters he would urge upon them their immediate duty in reference to it. He saw on every side in newspaper articles and public and private letters, and heard in universal talk, discussions and disputes about the causes of the distress, their sympathy with which had brought them together, and he saw with regret that too often in these discussions the unhappy results in misery and distress to thousands were neglected. He saw endless debates about conflicting remedies, and still meanwhile the one outcry which was before them, the prevalent distress, was neglected. Time would bring new duties in this matter, when it would be incumbent on statesmen and philanthropists to investigate those causes and devise preventives for their recurrence. Meanwhile, their present duty was plain before them. It was idle to discuss whether mill-owners had all done their duty, or their

best towards it, and even though one such were to be found at his fishery in Norway or another shooting in the North: so be it!—yet before God and man they had to consider each for himself how and in what manner was best to meet the call made upon their human sympathies, and rouse India to listen to the cry of wretchedness wringing in their ears. His invitation was not to bandy discussion, but to the rescue! Seeing a house on fire and inmates at the top, enveloped in smoke and threatened by flame, they would not stop and discuss around the ladder lying at their feet whether the cause of the fire lay in the carelessness of the inmates, or whether perchance it could be laid at the door of the Municipal Commissioners. Witnessing the sad accident on the river which had lately deprived them of some of their valued citizens, with a boat in reach and rowers ready, who would have waited on the shore to decide whether the steersman was in fault or the passengers careless, or if the river police ought to have been at hand? The cry and the natural response was,—to the rescue! It needed not to harrow them with details, unhappily too plentiful, of individual cases of dire distress, of uncomplaining suffering—even unto death. They had but to think upon some such single case and multiply that by thousands, even by hundreds of thousands. He drew a strong picture of the suffering of parents dying without a murmur, yet with strong nature appealing through their dying eyes for their children saved so far from actual starvation by their own self-sacrifice. He expatiated upon a spectacle such as the world had never before seen of order and freedom from riot, crime, or clamour, under such a wide-spreading popular calamity from causes beyond themselves and regarding which they were wholly blameless. He traced this wonderful state of things to education, which had been

made a reality among the people; and to a religion which, under the new order of things with archdeacons preaching in the streets and bishops ministering in unconsecrated places, had taken a real hold among them. He pressed the claims of such a suffering class reduced from comparative affluence to a bare subsistence in the face of an approaching winter, and claimed for them, not as a mere duty, but as a privilege from his hearers, a liberal, a more than liberal, subscription. No "little mites" for him in such a cause, unless they were really like the widow's mite, which was indeed her all. He did not urge for merely what could be spared from superfluous luxuries, but such a subscription from each as should involve some sort of self sacrifice short of which would be a failure of duty. His eloquence then burst forth into an exposition of his theory of the retributive workings of Providence among a selfish people; he followed up that with glowing sketches of the blessed visions which would open to them of happiness and safety spread among their suffering fellow men and fellow subjects by a full and free exercise of their bounty; and concluded with a fervent invocation of God's blessing upon their united efforts, amidst warm applause.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal then moved that the following gentlemen be appointed as a General Committee:—

The Hon'ble C. Beadon, C. B.; the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Calcutta; Sir R. Napier, K. C. B.; the Hon'ble H. B. Harington; the Hon'ble W. Grey; the Hon'ble Sir M. L. Wells; the Hon'ble H. V. Bayley; the Hon'ble C. B. Trevor; the Hon'ble W. S. Seton-Karr; the Hon'ble C. J. Erskine; the Hon'ble A. A. Roberts; the Hon'ble David Cowie; the Hon'ble W. S. Fitzwilliam; the Hon'ble Rajah Dinkur Rao; the Hon'ble Rajah Deonarain Singh; Briga-

dier General Showers, C. B.; the Venerable Archdeacon Pratt; the Rev. A. Duff, D. D.; L. L. D; the Rev. H. Hutton; the Rev. J. C. Herdman; the Rev. J. Richards; the Rev. E. Storrow; The Rev. G. Kerry; The Most Rev. the Vicar Apostolic; The Rev. Ter Johannes Catchick; T. H. Cowie, Esq.; Joseph Graham, Esq.; W. Theobald, Esq.; J. D. Bell, Esq.; Macleod Wylie, Esq.; R. Molloy, Esq.; F. C. Sandes, Esq.; the Hon'ble E. Drummond; Colonel Durand, C. B.; Colonel Strachey; Colonel Lockhart, C. B. 92nd Regiment; Colonel Cox, C. B.; Capt. Scott; E. C. Bayley, Esq.; Lieut.-Colonel Norman, C. B.; the Hon'ble Ashley Eden; S. Wauchope, Esq., C. B.; Colonel Broome; Major F. D. Atkinson; Colonel J. P. Beadle; Major F. W. Russell; the Hon'ble J. T. Hovell Thurlow; Captain Rennie, C. B.; Captain J. G. Reddie; Dr. J. Anderson; Dr. A. Macrae; Dr. J. Macpherson; Dr. N. Chevers; Dr. A. Webb; George Smith, Esq.; Walter Brett; Esq.; J. N. Bullen, Esq.; W. Maitland, Esq.; Stewart Douglas, Esq.; J. P. Sagrandi, Esq.; J. C. Whitney, Esq.; Seth Apcar, Esq.; J. Scott Elliot, Esq.; S. Gladstone, Esq.; Claud Brown, Esq.; J. H. Fergusson, Esq.; John Brown, Esq.; P. Keith, Esq.; R. Scott Mooncrieff, Esq.; J. P. Mackilligin, Esq.; George Dickson, Esq.; W. Anderson, Esq.; H. G. Dunlop, Esq.; E. D. Kilburn, Esq.; Captain Tronson; Captain H. Howe; C. F. White, Esq.; R. Chadwick, Esq.; H. Bolden, Esq.; J. C. Batchelor, Esq.; C. Henfrey, Esq.; Jas. Sutcliffe, Esq.; C. K. Dove, Esq.; W. S. Atkinson, Esq.; Jas. Mackenzie, Esq.; F. Jennings, Esq.; J. W. Browne, Esq.; W. Spink, Esq.; J. Remfry, Esq.; E. D. Kilburn, Esq.; Rajah Pertaubchunder Sing Bahadoor; Rajah Radakant Bahadoor; Rajah Kalikrishna Bahadoor; Baboo Prosunnocoomar Tagore; Baboo Ramanath Tagore; Coomar Suttyanund

Ghosal ; Baboo Ramgopal Ghose ; Manockjee Rustomjee, Esq. ; Moonshee Amir Alli ; and Moulvie Abdool Luteef.

His Honor then said :—Gentlemen, I am not going at this late hour to trespass upon your time and patience by any lengthened observations of mine ; I will therefore merely call your attention to the comprehensive character of the Committee, including as it does representatives of all classes, and express a hope that every member of it will not only contribute to the best of his ability, and thereby set an example to others, but also exercise his influence over his friends and others to contribute as liberally as they can. I would also wish to impress upon every one here present with reference to what has been said about the Famine Fund, the necessity that exists for their not allowing their contributions to be limited by any expectations based upon that fund even if it could be made available. In the first place, the amount even if available, would be insufficient to relieve the enormous extent of suffering ; in fact, not all that you can add will be thoroughly sufficient. In the second place, I must say that no one heard more gratefully than myself the remarks that fell from his Lordship, stating that the Government of India, though unwilling to devote the fund to other purposes than those it was originally intended for, had written to the Lord Mayor, throwing back the responsibility upon him and authorizing him to draw upon the Government of India with the promise that his drafts would be honored. But you must at the same time remember that his Lordship drew a very proper distinction between those who made the suggestion, and those on whom the responsibility of dealing with the money devolved. I must remind you also that this was a delegated responsibility, and it is therefore perfectly natural that the Governor-General in Council, finding him-

self the delegated trustee for the administration of this fund, though actuated by the same feelings as those who suggested its diversion, should have hesitated in carrying them out; and natural too that he should now take the opportunity of handing back that delegated responsibility to the Lord Mayor as the only representative of the original subscribers within reach, and leaving it for him to deal with. But then, gentlemen, is it not probable that the same responsibility will be felt in a greater degree by the Lord Mayor, from whom there is no higher authority to appeal to? How can we appeal to the original subscribers? If such appeal cannot be made, how can we know for certain that the Lord Mayor will not think it inconsistent with his duty to alter the destination of the money? I merely mention these points in order that you may banish from your minds all idea of limiting your contributions with any reference to the supposed surplus of the Indian Famine Fund.

Rajah Radhakant Deb, seconding this resolution, said :—

It is a great and good cause which has brought us here. We are here assembled, not to discuss politics or matters of formality, but promptly to decide upon the steps to be taken for rescuing an innocent and industrious section of our fellow English subjects from actual starvation. It is the call of humanity we have to attend to. Our native fellow countrymen have also a duty to perform; they are under a deep debt of gratitude to the people now in distress. They will, I hope, nobly come forward to discharge it with alacrity and pleasure. Our Hindoo nation has been proverbial for its benevolence and generous feeling: year by year, season after season, nay, day by day, its members of various sects feed hungry mouths, clothe

naked limbs, and in various shapes bless the needy by their open-handed charity; the poorest amongst them even collect round him like the patriarchs of old; all the scions of his family glory in supporting them under the severest privations. Can such a nation—can the Hindoos—remain in lethargic rest when a scene of misery so vast stares before them; and they feel they can alleviate it by their efforts. No; they have only properly to understand the object that claims their benevolence, and they will never belie their national character. Here is a noble opportunity, my friends, to show our characteristic kindly feelings, not merely to our fellow creatures, but towards those who helped us in the hour of distress with what they had earned by the sweat of their brow. It is a most sumptuous feast of generosity; let us all join to partake of it by contributing our mite to this noble cause—

"In faith and hope the world will disagree,
But all mankind's concern is charity."

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL then proposed the 4th Resolution :—

"That this Executive Committee be charged to place itself in communication with influential residents of cities and stations in the interior, soliciting their co-operation in carrying out the objects of this meeting."

He would not at that really late hour of the night detain his audience much longer, and it was not on his part a mere formal announcement that he would say but little. But at the same time he was anxious to make a few remarks upon the resolution entrusted to him. At the first sight the resolution might appear to involve more of detail than of principle, but even regarding it in that light, and putting aside all questions of such detail as it would not be fit to discuss at a preliminary meeting, it afforded ground for at least one

observation. It had been observed that the Committee named was a most comprehensive one, and he was glad to see that it was so, including all classes, commencing with the Lord Bishop, and closing with the corps of which he was a member,—the Devil's Own. What, however, he wished especially to impress upon his native friends there present, was the necessity that existed for their exerting, whether placed on the General or Executive Committee or not, all their influence to promote the objects of the meeting. No doubt, all these objects would be well carried out in the usual detail of Committees, &c., but they would be best carried out both as regards recipients and donors, by the individual exertions of all present or interested in that meeting The speaker then passed from the resolution as viewed in detail to the principle involved, the great principle as he saw it, that it was the duty of every Indian subject of Her Majesty to assist his fellow subject in England. The liberality of the Calcutta community was well known, and so doubtless was that of Madras and Bombay, but in this great national calamity, an expression of more than could be conveyed by the liberality of a few European Towns was wanted, —the action of all India. Not only those who usually put their names to every subscription list brought to them should in this instance come forward, but the whole body of the Indian people, from the Rajah to the ryot, whose interests were so bound up with those of England. He then alluded to the remark often made that "England's calamity was India's opportunity;" and concluded by expressing a hope that the people of India would seize that opportunity of consulting material as well as moral interests and of uniting themselves with England by the ties of mutual friendship and brotherly aid.

In seconding the above, Rajah Deonarain Singh, spoke, in his native tongue, to the following effect :—I second with great pleasure the resolution just read to this meeting by the Hon'ble Mr. Cowie. The people of Lancashire derived a large profit from cotton manufacture, and up to this time they have lived happily upon the same. It is a matter of great regret that in consequence of the American civil war the trade in cotton between that country and England has been altogether stopped, numerous mills in Lancashire are at a stand still, and the people are very much distressed for want of work; they have sold their household furniture for their sustenance; they have nothing to live upon; and they are in a state of starvation. A short period ago—I believe every one remembers it—a dreadful famine broke out in the Upper Provinces, including Delhi, Meerut, Etawah, and other districts of the North-West Provinces, and continued raging for several months. The inhabitants of those districts subsisted upon the leaves of trees, grass, and things which are unfit for human food, and which no one in other circumstances would even have touched: in fact, the people became devoid of human feeling. The son left the house and protection of his father, and brother lived apart from brother; nobody sympathised with those who were nearest and dearest to him; every one became selfish and valued nothing so much upon earth as his own life; mothers sold their children to strangers without any compunction. When the famine reached its greatest height, people began to die in large numbers, and masses of dead bodies were to be seen all over the country. To speak briefly, let me ask how was this extensive tract of country preserved from utter destruction and ruin?—A population consisting of many millions was saved mainly by English charity. As soon

as this disastrous intelligence reached England, all Englishmen sincerely sympathized with our distressed countrymen, and subscribed and remitted some lakhs of rupees for their relief. Our countrymen did what they could to alleviate the distress of their fellow countrymen ; but we should be more grateful to the English people, who are not so nearly allied to us, and upon whose charity we have not so strong a claim, and yet they voluntarily came forward to our succour. Now, if we in our turn try to assist those of our benefactors, who are now suffering, and who saved us with a liberal hand in a most disastrous and perilous time, it should not, I think, be thought mere act of liberaltiy or charity; it should rather be considered as what is due from us. The tie of gratitude binds us strongly to the people of England; besides, it is an established axiom that to assist men in need is the duty of all persons.

Rajah Radhakant Deb then handed a letter to His Excellency who announced that he had just received a communication from the Nawab Nazim, expressing his sympathy with the objects of the meeting and forwarding Rs. 2,000 as his subscription :—

The Palace, Moorshedabad,

November 2, 1862.

My Lord,—Having seen in the public papers a notice to the effect that a public meeting is to be held in Calcutta in aid of the Lancashire District Relief Fund, it occurred to me that, although unable to be present at the meeting, I might yet take the opportunity of showing how deeply my sympathies are enlisted in its object. It must be fresh in the recollection of every one who has the interest of India at heart, how nobly and generously England stretched out the hand of sympathy and assistance to her in the hour of her

distress. In this respect the friendship of England, as manifested during the period of the late famine in Upper India, has done more to convince all classes of her Eastern subjects that she has really their welfare at heart, than any one act during the century the countries have been connected. India labors under a debt of gratitude to England on this account, and this alone should move her chiefs and people to come forward and do what they can to mitigate the severity of the stroke, which without any fault of theirs has overtaken so large a section of their English fellow subjects. But more than this the spectacle of endurance and patience exhibited by the people of Lancashire, under so fierce a trial, should stir us up to follow the noble example of our Queen. If undeserved misfortune borne with fortitude, and sudden calamities met without shrinking and with calm and heroic manliness, can exalt the character of a people, and give them a hold upon our regard and sympathies, then the people of Lancashire have a permanent claim upon us, and England whilst mourning with them in their distress must still feel proud that they are her children. As a slight mark of my admiration of what I can find no other name for than their truly English conduct and bearing, and of my sincere sympathy with them in their trouble, I beg to subscribe towards the fund for their relief the sum of Rupees 2,000, and to express a hope that the Great Disposer of events will put an end to that fearful contest of brother against brother which can bring so heavy a calamity upon an innocent and friendly nation.

I am,
My Lord,
Your obedient servant,
SYUD MUNSOOR ULLEE,
Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa.

In moving the 5th Resolution :—

"That the thanks of this meeting be respectfully offered to His Excellency the Viceroy for presiding on this occasion,"

MR. KILBURN said that it would not become them to separate without thanking their noble President for his kindness in occupying the chair and his readiness in promoting the object of the meeting. He was certain that it would be most gratifying to the suffering operatives to learn the active part taken by Her Most Gracious Majesty's Representative in India at such a meeting.

MR. JENNINGS seconded the resolution briefly saying that His Excellency's conduct in presiding that night would meet with the praise of the whole civilised world.

HIS EXCELLENCY returned thanks for the vote of thanks. No duty could possibly be more agreeable to him than one which brought him into contact with the representatives of the Calcutta community, and though his position would not always allow him to interpose, he was always on such occasions as the present most heartily at the service of the Calcutta community. His Excellency also thanked the Lieutenant-Governor and Mr. Bullen for the way in which they had spoken of his conduct in the matter of the famine fund; deprecated the idea, which, he said, was generally entertained that the amount was a very large one; reminded his hearers that many claims had still to be met, and that only the surplus after such claims had been settled could be made use of; and concluded by a repetition of hearty interest in all matters connected with Calcutta, and a promise that on all great and important occasions similar to the present he was at the orders of its inhabitants.

HIS EXCELLENCY then left the Hall, and the meeting dispersed at about a quarter to twelve.

A Meeting of the General Committee of the Lancashire Distress Relief Fund was held on the 12th November 1862 at the Chamber of Commerce rooms, and was very numerously attended.

Sir R Napier, K. C. B, was voted into the chair.

The proceedings commenced by the Chairman reading letters from his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor and the Venerable Archdeacon Pratt, expressing their regret that they ere unable to attend.

Similar letters were also read from Baboo Ramanauth Tagore, the Hon. Mr. Eden, and Mr. R. Smith, of Lancashire.

A letter was read from Mr. Wauchope, Commissioner of Police, stating that he would defray the whole cost of lighting the Town Hall for the recent public meeting from a fund at his disposal, so that no portion of the subscriptions to the Relief Fund would be diverted to that purpose.

A letter was also read from Mr. George Wyman, Superintendent of the Military Orphan Press, offering to undertake gratuitously any work which the Committee might require to be printed.

Both these propositions received the thanks of the meeting.

A letter was also read from Baboo Rajindra Narain Deb, stating that his father, Raja Radakant Deb, having left town, would be unable to attend the meeting, but that he had already communicated with friends at Moorshedabad and hoped to organize a local Committee there to forward subscriptions.

A letter was also read from Moonshee Ameer Ally, stating that his influence would be used to obtain subscriptions from his friends.

The Chairman then read a letter from Major-General Geo. St. P. Lawrence, C. B. Agent to the Governor General in Rajpootana, forwarding a draft for Rs. 5,291-6, of which Rs. 5,000 was the subscription of His Highness Maharajah Tukt Singh of Marwar, Jhodepore, and stating that he hoped that in a few days, a further remittance of Rs. 5,000 would go forward from His Highness the Rao Rajah of Ulwar, on which it was resolved on the motion of Mr. Maitland, seconded by the Hon'ble Mr. Erskine, that the thanks of the Committee be conveyed through General Lawrence to the Maharajah Tukt Singh for his liberal contribution, and that the thanks of the Committee be also given to General Lawrence personally for the warm interest he has throughout taken in this movement.

It was then resolved on the motion of Mr. Bullen, seconded by Mr. E. C. Bayley, that the following gentlemen be added to the General Committee:—

Colonel Lockart, C. B., 92nd Highlanders; Lieut-Col. Cox, C. B., Asst. Qr. Mr. Genl.; Captain Scott, Adjt. Genl., H. M.'s Forces.

The Chairman then stated that he was glad to inform the meeting that the subscriptions already exceeded Rs. 36,000, and that large additions were daily being made to the list.

It was then moved by Colonel Durand, C. B., and seconded by Captain Howe, and carried unanimously, that the following gentlemen be appointed an Executive Committee to communicate with influential residents in the interior, and generally to carry out the objects sought to be attained by the late public meeting at the Town Hall:—

The Venerable Archdeacon Pratt; the Hon. Mr. Erskine;

the Hon'ble Mr. Eden; the Hon'ble Mr. Thurlow; Colonel Lockart, C. B.; Major F. W. Russell; Rajah Deonarain Singh; Mr. David Cowie; Rajah Radhakant Deb; Rajah Kalikrishna Bahadoor; Mr. Maitland; Moonshee Ameer Alli; Mr. J. H. Fergusson; Mr. Jennings; Mr. A. A. Roberts, and Mr. Bullen. Mr. H. W. I. Wood to be Hony. Secy. and Treasurer.

The proceedings terminated by a vote of thanks to the Chairman proposed by Baboo Prosonocoomar Tagore, seconded by Rajah Kalikrishna Bahadoor.

The Fund was closed on 10th December 1863, with the following result:—

Subscriptions and interest 226-13-6,	Rs.	5,46,619	14	4
Remitted to the Lord Mayor, London, £53,506-4-8	,,	5,37,225	14	6
Charges for advertisements &c., &c.,	,,	9,393	15	10
	Rs.	5,46,619	14	4

H. W. I. WOOD,

Hony. Secy. and Treasurer.

CYCLONE RELIEF FUND.

From the " ENGLISHMAN" *of 7th October* 1864.

WHEN we went to press yesterday, we had gathered but few details of the fearful catastrophe which has visited our port and city, and our short notice will have given but a faint idea of the loss actually sustained. Accounts are now pouring in from all quarters of the damage that has been caused on shore, and the utter ruin which has overtaken the greater part of the shipping in the river. During the whole of Tuesday night, the weather was marked by a succession of squalls and heavy rain from the N. N. E., and it maintained the same character till about half past ten on Wednesday morning, gradually increasing in violence. The wind then veered round to the East, and began to blow more steadily, and with increased fury. The weaker trees were uprooted, or broken short, but, for the first hour or so, no greater damage was done. Between eleven and twelve o'clock a noise like that of distant thunder, which probably may have been heard from as far as two miles, gave warning, as it gradually increased, that something worse was coming. In about two minutes from this time, the true Cyclone was upon the town. Wherever there were trees, they were either uprooted and fell, carrying with them, in many cases, walls, railings and buildings, or their branches were snapped off like reeds and hurled away with the wind. Carriages and palkees were upset and strewed the roads, mingled with the debris of roofs, verandahs and gates, and fallen trees. Corrugated iron roofings were torn, doubled up, and blown away, like sheets of paper. By two o'clock

the Eastern and Southern Suburbs of the City, and those parts of it to the Westward, which, from their proximity to the *maidan* and the river, were the most exposed, were, more or less, a wreck. Excepting the cocoanut and other palms, scarcely a tree was anywhere to be found standing. The beautiful avenues in Fort William were entirely destroyed; the Eden Gardens turned into a wilderness; in Tank Square the trees and shrubs were blown away, and in many parts the iron railings torn up and overthrown. In Garden Reach the roads were blocked up and rendered impassable from the trees that fell across them. The splendid avenue of *usoth (polyalthea longifolia)* trees in the compound of the school opposite St. James' Church, some of which must have been four or five feet in circumference, was entirely destroyed, the trees being snapped off above the level of the wall which protected them, but which is now no longer standing. The damage done to buildings was considerable. Among these we notice that the roof of the Free School was blown away; the upper part of the Roman Catholic Church at the upper end of the Bow Bazar road entirely destroyed and the steeple of the Free Church of Scotland; the minarets of the Mosque in Dhurrumtollah were all blown away; St. James' Theatre was unroofed and nearly destroyed; the roof of the Cathedral is much damaged; the sheds of the East Indian Railway Company are unroofed, and Messrs. Thacker and Spink's premises seriously damaged. Our own troubles we described yesterday. In fact, scarcely a pucka house in Calcutta has escaped without injury, while the native huts especially in the suburbs were almost all blown down. The telegraph lines are interrupted in all directions. All these losses are sufficiently annoying and lamentable; but it is on the river that the storm has been

attended by the most disastrous consequences. To give an accurate or connected account of the loss among the shipping is as yet impossible; all is confusion, and it is scarcely known what ships have been entirely lost, what are irremediably damaged, and what are safe. The last are few, indeed; perhaps not more than half a dozen are in a state to go to sea without extensive repairs. With few exceptions, the shipping were driven from their moorings and cast ashore, or jammed together, on the opposite side of the river, while several were sunk in mid channel, and others stranded by the storm-wave high up on the Calcutta shore. Several ships are ashore in Garden Reach, and one sunk a little below the Garden House, with, it is to be feared, loss of life. The steamer *Bengal* is high and dry opposite the Peninsular and Oriental Company's moorings; the *Nubia* is dismasted, and the *Nemesis* adrift. The old *Hindoostan*, which was used as a Hulk and Floating Church, sunk this morning. It appears that, having broken adrift, she fouled the *Nemesis*, doing her damage, and finally, rolling over and over, went down opposite the King of Oude's house. The ships that have foundered are, as far as we can learn, the *Lady Franklin*, *Govindpore*, *Azemia*, *Anne Royden*, *Loo Choo*, *Vespasian*, *Ville de St. Denis*, *Merrie England*; the Tug Steamers *Hercules*, *Fire Queen*, *Banshee*, *Satellite*, and *Linnet*, and the *Hindustan*. The *Moulmein*, which was generally supposed to have been lost, is adrift. Great loss of life, it is to be feared, has attended these founderings. Many European Sailors were to be seen, during the gale, floating down the river on pieces of wreck, and we have heard the number lost estimated as high as three hundred, but this we are unwilling to believe. A man named Cleary, whose heroism should be handsomely rewarded, swam off with a

life line to the sunken ship *Govindpore* and rescued eight of her crew from drowning. The list above given is, it is to be feared, very imperfect, while numbers of vessels that are at present on shore will probably have to be abandoned. Many ships rode out the gale in safety, until run foul of by others adrift, and carried away with them. In this way the *Grappler*, Buoy vessel, was fouled by the *Princess Royal*, and parted her chain. She was again brought up when five other vessels drifted on to her, and swept her away, carrying away her rudder, and all her masts, except the main mast. A few vessels were fortunate enough to ride out the gale at their own anchors: among others, the floating light *Saugor*, which escaped without any damage but the loss of one of her boats. The Police Hulks have all foundered with the exception of the one at Prinsep's Ghaut, which is high and dry. Close to her may be seen the Government Steamer *Adjai* with a broken back. The scene presented by the shipping is indescribable. There must be at least a hundred ships ashore, all huddled together in tangled masses in inextricable confusion. Yards and masts are hanging about in every conceivable form of wreck, and the scene is one of the utmost desolation and ruin. The loss of boats of every description is also enormous ; probably nine out of ten were capsized and sunk by the storm-wave which followed the change of the wind from East to South ; and many of the remainder have been cast up on shore. The utmost difficulty is from this cause experienced in communicating with the shipping. The Inland River Steamers have not escaped. The steamer *Progress*, with two flats, left two days ago, and must have been between Channel Creek and Mutlah, *en route* from Assam, at the time of the Cyclone ; but we do not yet know how far that extended. The

steamer *Mirzapore* belonging to the Ganges Company is ashore at Armenian Ghaut; four flats of the India General Steam Navigation Company are disabled; and two steamers and two flats belonging to the Bengal River Company are supposed to have been lost. The steamer *Cachar*, which arrived here two days ago, is missing, while her two flats are ashore and broken. Below will be found some interesting accounts furnished us of the gale, and the barometric readings from the morning until the Cyclone had passed away. At Serampore the gale appears, from the *Friend of India*, to have blown as furiously as in Calcutta. The road which skirts the river there has been carried away. The fine trees which studded the compound of the *Friend of India* Office are all destroyed. Mahogany trees, says the *Friend*, lie with their roots torn out of the ground; the house is reduced to a ruin, and was flooded by the river during the storm. Dr. Carey's garden, with the rare trees it contained, presents now only a few stumps; and the destruction of native huts is enormous. At 9 P. M. the gale was moderating; so that it must have reached Serampore much later than Calcutta. It appears to have travelled in a north-westerly direction.

On the 13th October a public meeting was held at the Office of the Chamber of Commerce to adopt instant measures for relieving the distress occasioned by the calamity, particulars of which are given in the above paragraph. Several speakers addressed the meeting, and after a lengthened discussion as to the best means for relieving the wants of the people who were suffering from the effects of the Cyclone, the following resolutions were adopted:—

Resolved.—That this meeting, on the facts before them,

resolves that an urgent necessity exists for immediate measures to be taken for the relief of the distressed population suffering from the recent Cyclone.

That the following gentlemen form a Committee for that immediate purpose, with power to add to the number:—

J. N. Bullen, Esq.
D. Cowie, Esq.
Geo. Bright, Esq.
H. Robinson, Esq.
Capt. H. Howe.
H. L. Dampier, Esq., Commissioner, 24-Pergunnahs.
J. B. Knight, Esq.
A. Morrison, Esq.
Lieut.-Col. J. P. Beadle.
Dr. Norman Chevers.
Walter Brett, Esq.
Manockjee Rustomjee, Esq.
Baboo Degumber Mitter.
Baboo Ramanath Tagore.
Rajah Pertabchunder Singh.

That a Guarantee Fund be placed at the disposal of the Committee.

That the Committee be requested to take the earliest and most efficient means of affording present relief, and gaining more accurate information as to the necessity of, and means for, further and more permanent operations.

After the usual vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting separated.

SECRETARIAT LIBRARY.

Proceedings of a Meeting of Subscribers to the Cyclone Relief Fund held at the Office of the Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, the 27th April 1865.

The Hon'ble DAVID COWIE in the Chair.

The Chairman said that the present meeting of subscribers had been convened by the Committee for the purpose of submitting a report of their proceedings since their appointment on the 13th of October last, as well as of ascertaining the wishes of subscribers as to the disposal of a surplus of about Rs. 34,000.

He would accordingly first submit the report for their approval and then proceed to discuss the other subject.

The Honorary Secretary was requested to read the report, which ran as follows :—

TO THE SUBSCRIBERS TO THE CYCLONE RELIEF FUND.

GENTLEMEN,—The Committee who undertook the duty of collecting subscriptions for the Fund, raised on behalf of the sufferers by the Cyclone of 5th October and of adopting measures for their relief, think it expedient to convene this meeting with the view to submit a report of their proceedings and to receive your decision as to the disposal of an unappropriated surplus of about Rs. 34,000.

A special narrative of the results of the hurricane compiled by the Government of Bengal appeared in the *Gazette of India* of 14th January, and the reports of the officers who directed the operations of relief in the distressed districts have from time to time been published for general information. The Committee, therefore, need not recapitulate the details

which have thus been given to the public; they will confine their report to the matters which came under their own immediate cognizance.

The Committee held their first meeting on the 13th October.

The statements made at the public meeting, held the day before, by parties who were well acquainted with those portions of the 24-Pergunnahs, and places on the right bank of the Hooghly which had been most severely visited, and who had witnessed the results of the hurricane, left no room for doubt as to the extent of distress which prevailed and of relief which was urgently required. No time was therefore lost in sending down supplies of food for distribution among the starving people, and the steamer *Bombay* was despatched with a quantity of rice, dhall, salt, &c. The relieving expedition was placed under the charge of Mr. William Smith, Superintending Engineer, South-East Circle, who was directed to proceed as far as Saugor Island, distributing supplies at all convenient points on both banks of the river. Considerable relief was thus afforded in localities immediately accessible, and after leaving small supplies at various depôts so as to last for a few days, Mr. Smith returned on the 18th.

During his absence a second expedition was organised; and the Government having placed the steamer *Teesta* at the disposal of the Committee, large quantities of food and clothing followed on the 23rd under charge of Mr. D. J. McNeile, C. S., who had been appointed to the special duty of directing relief operations in co-operation with the Committee.

The judicious arrangements of Mr. McNeile had the Committee's entire approval, and on receipt of his requisition for

increased supplies the steamer *Frances Gordon* was engaged to tow down a number of boats laden with provisions, cooking utensils, water, blankets and cloth. This third expedition started on the 2nd November.

On Mr. McNeile's return the *Teesta* was again employed, and the supply of food continued, a large quantity of coir yarn and kodallies and bill hooks was also despatched to enable the houseless poor to repair their damaged huts or build new ones.

In the meanwhile applications for relief were made on behalf of the widows and orphans of Europeans and others who had perished in the hurricane, and were left utterly destitute, as well as on behalf of hundreds of natives whose cases were brought to the Committee's notice by parties who had personally investigated them.

It may be here stated that as the submission of applications to the General Committee involved considerable delay and inconvenience, a Sub-Committee was appointed to dispose of all business of an ordinary character, their proceedings being reported for confirmation.

The Sub-Committee took special care that none but well authenticated cases of distress were entertained by them; these, however, were very numerous, and a considerable amount was appropriated for their relief, and it will be seen from the list of almoners to whom the Committee entrusted a large proportion of their funds that the distribution of relief was conducted in a manner which subscribers may rest assured was all that could be desired. It would have been an impossible task for either the General or Sub-Committee to ascertain the nature and extent of distress for which relief was asked, or to distinguish between real and feigned cases of destitution, or indeed to have met with any measure of success in the proper application of the fund, if public and

private co-operation had not been cheerfully and promptly accorded.

With the valuable assistance thus rendered the Committee have been enabled to carry out the object of the fund in a manner which they trust will meet your approval, and to bring their labors to a close.

The Committee now proceed to report upon the financial position of the fund.

The statement of account which accompanies this report contains an alphabetical list of subscriptions and particulars of disbursements up to this date ; and furnishes the fullest details subscribers can desire : the Committee therefore need only here give an abstract of income and expenditure as follows :—

The subscriptions amount to				Rs.	3,76,764	5	9
Less short received from Bombay ...	18,150	0	0				
and Calcutta ...	5,583	3	4		23,733	3	4
				Rs.	3,53,031	2	5
Amount refunded out of advances for distribution ...				„	1,091	15	9
				Total Income Rs.	3,54,123	2	2
The disbursements have been grants for distribution among natives	92,110	8	0				
Sailors' Home Relief Fund ...	25,000	0	0				
	1,17,110	8	0				

Supplies of food, clothing, &c., exclusively for natives ...	1,12,245 2 2		
Sundry expenses, steamers, cargo boats and coolies, &c. ...	20,489 9 7		
Donations including Rs. 50,000 to the Masulipatam Fund and Rs. 7,500 to the District Charitable Society of Calcutta ...	65,118 0 0		
Monthly donations to widows and others ..	4,750 0 0		
			3,19,713 3 9
		Balance Rs.	34,409 14 5
Of that balance there is in the Oriental Bank...	34,028 8 2		
and with the Hony. Secretary ...	381 6 3		
		Rs.	34,409 14 5

With regard to the amount of subscriptions as given above the Committee have to remark that the sum of Rs. 18,150 intended by the subscribers at Bombay for this fund, and included in the advertised lists of subscriptions in anticipation of payment in due course, was transferred direct to the Masulipatam Relief Fund ; that sum is therefore deducted from the aggregate subscriptions.

On the 31st December the Calcutta outstandings amounted to about Rs. 24,000, subscribers were requested to pay

up the unpaid portion of their guaranteed subscription, and from that date the receipts have gradually reduced the outstandings to Rs. 5,583-3-4: this sum must likewise be deducted from the aggregate advertised subscriptions.

The grants or advances for distribution were made to the following parties :—

	Rs.	As.	P.
The Magistrate, 24-Pergunnahs ...	...20,283	8	0
Ditto, Kishnaghur ...	... 4,347	0	0
Ditto, Midnapore ...	... 6,000	0	0
D. J. McNeile, Esq. ...	... 1,500	0	0
The Rev. G. Kerry ..	... 8,300	0	0
„ Dr. Mullens ...	...11,000	0	0
„ J. Payne ...	... 1,500	0	0
„ C. E. Driberg ...	... 7,100	0	0
„ J. Welland ...	... 2,000	0	0
„ T. Sandys ...	... 2,000	0	0
„ W. Sampson ...	... 1,000	0	0
„ E. C. Stuart ...	... 1,000	0	0
„ J. Wenger ...	.. 500	0	0
„ J. Babonau ...	... 2,000	0	0
„ J. Vaughan ...	... 2,000	0	0
„ J. D. Don ...	... 100	0	0
„ F. Schurr ...	... 300	0	0
„ C. H. Blumhardt ...	... 1,600	0	0
Hugh Fraser, Esq., for Saugor Island	...11,000	0	0
J. O'Flaherty, Esq., Contai ...	... 1,000	0	0
Superintendent of Police, Tumlook	... 200	0	0
District Charitable Society, Calcutta	.. 1,000	0	0
Baboo Chunder Seekur Mookerjee, Conaghur...	2,500	0	0
W. H. Ryland, Esq., Serampore	... 2,000	0	0
Major Snead, Barrackpore ...	... 600	0	0

The Revd. H. Highfield, Ditto ...	750	0	0
„ J. Trafford, Serampore ..	500	0	0
Baboo Prawnkissen Mookerjee ...	30	0	0
	92,110	8	0
Sailors' Home Relief Fund ...	25,000	0	0
Rs.	1,17,110	8	0

The supplies of food and clothing sent down from Calcutta to the places already indicated consisted of—

Rice	15,875	Mds.
Dholl	3,077	„
Salt	242	„
Oil	476	„

(besides tobacco, chillies, &c.)

Blankets, 1,850

Yards of English cotton cloth, 1,48,600.

	Rs.	As.	P.
The cost of these supplies amounts to	1,12,245	2	2
Under the head of *Sundries* are included the expenses for conveying the above supplies, amounting to	16,925	13	0
The pay to Gomashtas	1,202	4	3
Ditto Native Doctors ...	600	4	2
and a variety of miscellaneous charges...	1,761	4	2
Making a total of Rs.	20,489	9	7

The item of donations, *viz.*, Rs. 65,118-0-0 scarcely requires any explanation. Rs. 50,000 having been granted to the Masulipatam Relief Fund, Rs. 7,500 to the local

District Charitable Society, and the remainder distributed among numerous applicants for relief as detailed in the accounts.

The item next in order of review is the sum of Rs. 4,750. This amount represents the accumulated monthly payments to the following widows and their families :—

Mrs.	Jefferson	Rs.	100
„	Poole		40
„	Lefever, Senior		25
„	Lefever, Junior		50
„	Hickman		80
„	Tetley		15
„	Snell, Senior		25
„	Snell, Junior		75
„	Pigott		40
„	McDonnell		60
„	Thomas		100
„	Hughes		100
„	Woodley		50
and the family of Womeschunder Banerjee ...			15
	Total monthly allowance	Rs.	775

The final item of account is the surplus of Rs. 34,409-14-5. The disposal of this sum is one of the principal objects for which your attendance has been requested to-day, and the Committee will be glad to receive your directions as to the appropriation of that surplus.

The items of income and expenditure having been thus brought to your notice, the Committee proceed to draw their report to a close.

When the necessity arose for appealing to the sympathy and generosity of the Calcutta community for the means whereby the disastrous effects of the hurricane might be mitigated, and the sufferings of the natives relieved as far as human aid could serve them, it was believed that local exertions would sufficiently meet the local calamity; the Committee therefore contented themselves with the very liberal contributions which they were sure would be made by the Society of Calcutta. But when the tidings of the Cyclone reached the other Presidencies measures were promptly taken there to help on the work of charity commenced in Calcutta: the public sympathy of Bombay was heartily expressed by all classes, and the princely munificence of the Parsee community was exhibited on a scale commensurate with that spirit of benevolence which so highly distinguishes them.

Madras no doubt would have contributed liberally also; but in consequence of the disastrous hurricane which visited Masulipatam all the funds that could be collected, were required for the sufferers there, and the sum which had already been subscribed for Calcutta was retained for their relief.

The Committee have already remarked that the duty which they undertook could not possibly have been performed had they not received the willing and active co-operation of others: they therefore consider it their duty to place on record the material service rendered by those who took a most active part in promoting the object for which the Fund was established.

The Committee desire heartily to acknowledge the earnest interest with which Mr. H. L. Dampier, Commissioner of Nuddea, directed the relief operations in the 24-Pergunnahs

and other places within his jurisdiction which had felt the effects of the hurricane, and the admirable arrangements for extending relief in all ascertained directions of distress.

Mr. Montresor, the Commissioner of Burdwan, had an arduous duty in superintending the operations in the Midnapore District, and the Committee desire to thank him for his services.

The Committee are highly indebted to Mr. W. Le F. Robinson and to Mr. Horace Cockerell, the late and present Magistrates of the 24-Pergunnahs, for the ready aid at all times rendered by them.

To very many members of the Missionary Body the grateful thanks of the Committee are due and hereby cordially tendered: their labors on behalf of the suffering people in their respective districts have been so constant and energetic that the Committee do not hestitate to attribute to them in a great degree the successful operation of the Fund. Conspicuous in this field of labor were the Reverend Dr. Mullens, the Reverend Mr. Driberg, and the Reverend Mr. Kerry, and the Committee's special thanks are due to these members of the Missionary establishment.

The first relief expedition was, as has already been noticed, under the direction of Mr. Smith, Superintending Engineer, who satisfactorily conducted that duty, and the Committee's thanks are due to him and his companions the Reverends Mr. Payne and Mr. Stack.

The operations that followed were under the direction of Mr. D. J. McNeile, of the Civil Service, who was appointed by the Government of Bengal for the special purpose of conducting those operations in connection with the Relief Committee: and it affords the Committee the highest satis-

faction in having this opportunity of expressing how very deeply they are indebted to Mr. McNeile for the complete success which attended all the measures adopted by him. The special service for which Mr. McNeile was deputed by Government could not have been performed in a more efficient manner; his arrangements for affording relief were as perfect as could be under the peculiar circumstances of his position; his frequent reports were full of most interesting and reliable information; and the entire service was discharged in a manner which reflects the highest credit upon him. The Committee cordially congratulate Mr. McNeile upon the successful termination of a duty so well performed, and thank him for his zealous co-operation.

The Committee have also to record their grateful thanks to the managers of the District Charitable Society for the able and careful manner in which they have been the dispensers of the funds which this Committee placed at their disposal.

Their thanks are likewise due to the Proprietors of the *Englishman*, *Hurkaru*, *Indian Daily News*, and *Friend of India*, for their extreme liberality in the gratis insertion of the long lists of subscriptions which have been published during the last six months.

In concluding this report the Committee desire to place on record their warm appreciation of the very valuable services rendered to the Fund by the Honorary Secretary. Though fully occupied with his own duties, his time, early and late, has been ungrudgingly given to the voluminous correspondence, to the collection and distribution of the subscriptions, and to the multifarious duties which devolved upon him as Secretary of the Fund. The Committee are

of opinion that the very cordial thanks of the subscribers are due to Mr. Wood on behalf of the Committee.

DAVID COWIE,

Calcutta, 27th April 1865. *Chairman.*

The report having been read, and received as a highly satisfactory account of the Committee's proceedings,

Mr. Hugh Fraser addressed the meeting in the following terms: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I have on several occasions appeared here to thank you for the timely relief you sent in food and money to the Cyclone sufferers down the river. Now we are met to consider the disposal of a surplus, and before any other subject is brought forward, I would suggest that the services of our Honorary Secretary be considered. With what tact, perseverance, and energy, that onerous duty has been performed by Mr. Wood, you Sir, and every member of the Committee are aware.

I trust I am in order in making this proposition. It is entirely spontaneous and proceeds from my high appreciation of the efficient manner Mr. Wood has managed the details of this Fund, placed, Sir, by public philanthropy at your disposal. How devotedly its Honorary Secretary gave his time, late and early, to the work. How deserving he is of some token of respect and regard from the subscribers at large, must be admitted by us. I have not spoken to or consulted any of you, Gentlemen, certainly not Mr. Wood, on this subject; yet I am confident you go along with me in the propriety, nay, our duty, in placing a suitable sum at Mr. Wood's disposal, something worthy of the magnitude of the Fund, and the work performed. Certainly Mr. Wood does not expect to be rewarded, for reward him adequately we cannot, and it is with diffidence I mention any particular

sum : Rs. 5,000 may well be placed apart for Mr. Wood's acceptance as donation or testimonial.

Dr. Norman Chevers had much pleasure in seconding the proposition ; he thought the Honorary Secretary's services well merited a substantial recognition at the hands of subscribers, and hoped the proposition would have the cordial support of the meeting.

Mr. Wood said he felt deeply grateful to Mr. Fraser and Dr. Chevers for the proposition they had submitted to the meeting, as well as to the subscribers present for entertaining it; and he could not adequately express his sense of the high honor they had conferred on him by the desire to acknowledge in the manner proposed the share which he had been permitted to take in the work now brought to a conclusion. He begged the meeting to believe that it was gratifying to him beyond measure to receive this public acknowledgment of his honorary services: it had been a source of great pleasure to him in giving effect to the wishes of the Committee, and he had heartily co-operated with them in one of the most interesting causes he had ever been connected with. But while he duly appreciated the very generous proposition now before the meeting and felt how much he was indebted for the kindness which prompted it, Mr. Wood hoped he would not be considered insensible to their goodness if he considered his services amply recompensed by a unanimous vote of thanks unaccompanied by any other token of their satisfaction; he would therefore beg the meeting would hold his services strictly honorary, as had been done in other instances in which he had acted in a similar capacity. He would be glad, however, if the meeting would grant to the establishment of the Chamber of Commerce, who had cheerfully

assisted him, a donation of Rs. 1,200 to 1,500 for distribution among them.

Mr. Fraser duly appreciated all Mr. Wood had said; but he did not think that subscribers would rightly discharge their obligations to their Secretary if they did not adopt the proposition he had made: he would therefore, notwithstanding Mr. Wood's graceful refusal of the testimonial which he considered him so well entitled to, put the matter to the meeting in a substantive proposition, *viz:*—

"That a service of plate of the value of Rs. 5,000 be presented to the Honorary Secretary for his great exertions on behalf of the Cyclone Relief Fund, and that a sum of Rs. 1,500 be distributed among those of his establishment who had assisted him."

Dr. Chevers repeated the opinion he had already expressed and seconded the proposition.

The Chairman said he very fully concurred in what had fallen from the previous speakers as to the great services rendered by the Honorary Secretary, and if a subscription were set on foot to acknowledge those services he would gladly at once put down his name for 10 gold mohurs, but he had the gravest doubt as to the propriety of voting any portion of these surplus funds for such a purpose.

The Hon'ble Mr. Bullen said that, knowing how much Mr. Wood desired that the services which he was always so ready to render as Secretary to these funds should be considered strictly honorary, he had been quite prepared for the objections which he made to any money payment to himself out of the balance of this fund. He thought the sentiments which Mr. Wood had expressed were very honorable to him. Nevertheless he considered that Mr. Wood

might unobjectionably receive from the subscribers to the fund, as a mark of their appreciation of his services, a testimonial of the nature which had been suggested, and he should support a resolution to give effect to that suggestion.

Mr. Wood said that after the very flattering remarks which had fallen from his friends at the meeting, and the desire so generously expressed and repeated that he should possess some token of their appreciation of his labours he had no other alternative than to leave himself in their hands; he only begged permission to suggest that with reference to the character of the fund the smallest amount that could be allotted would procure a testimonial which he would appreciate with as much pride and pleasure as a more costly gift.

Mr. Bullen felt sure his motives would not be misconstrued, least of all by his friend Mr. Wood, if he suggested that a smaller sum than that proposed should be voted for the testimonial. He had already expressed his sense of the valuable services rendered to the fund by Mr. Wood, and he quite agreed that those services would not be in the least over-remunerated by a testimonial of the value proposed. But considering the nature of the fund and that whatever was taken out of it in this way would go to reduce the sum for distribution amongst Charitable Institutions, he thought so large a vote might be cavilled at outside. Moreover he was confident that Mr. Wood would value the testimonial as he had said he would not for its money cost, but as a token of the cordial appreciation of his labors by the subscribers to the fund. He would therefore suggest to the proposer and seconder of the resolution to modify it by inserting the sum of Rs. 2,500 instead of Rs. 5,000. He

would then heartily support the resolution. But if this suggestion was not acceded to, he should embody it in an amendment which he would ask the Chairman to put to the meeting.

Mr. Fraser and *Dr. Chevers* having renewed their adherence to their formal proposition, Mr. Bullen proposed as an amendment "that the value of the service of plate be Rs. 2,500."

The amendment was put to the vote and carried, the Chairman for the reason he had already assigned declining to vote.

Mr. Wood thanked the meeting for their most generous consideration both towards himself and those on whose behalf he had ventured to apply.

The Chairman said that the meeting had now to dispose of the surplus which the vote just passed had reduced to say Rs. 30,000 : and he would submit for their consideration some objects which appeared to him well deserving of a share of that surplus. It was stated in the Committee's report that there were several widows and destitute families receiving, as a temporary arrangement, monthly allowances from the fund; those allowances aggregated nearly Rs. 800 a month, and he thought that the sum of Rs. 10,000 should be reserved for the special purpose of continuing for 12 months more the monthly donations that had been given since October : it being intimated to the several recipients that the allowances would not extend beyond the 30th April 1866.

This proposition was unanimously adopted.

The Chairman stated that some weeks ago the Committee

had received applications on behalf of the Free School and Calcutta Normal School for assistance to enable those institutions to repair damages by the Cyclone ; they could not then be complied with, and the Chairman was of opinion that a portion of the surplus might now be given to each—say Rs. 2,500 to the former and Rs. 1,000 to the latter.

These grants were also unanimously voted.

The Chairman then submitted an application from the Rev. A. L. Mitchell, Seamen's Chaplain of the Port of Calcutta.

The Floating Church or Chapel with its Library, Reading Room, and Lecture Room, and valuable contents, was totally wrecked in the hurricane ; it used to be attended by a great number of sailors, and its destruction has involved the loss of this usual place of worship, of improvement, and of rational amusement.

Mr. Mitchell believes that the losses cannot be replaced by a less sum than Rs. 20,000.

The Meeting considers this a very proper case for assistance, and votes the sum of Rs. 5,000 towards the reconstitution of the Floating Chapel with its Library, &c. as detailed in Mr. Mitchell's letter.

Mr. Hugh Fraser hoped that a grant of two thousand rupees would be given to purchase cattle to enable the ryots of Saugor Island to till their land, and so become self-supporting during the coming season ; the Chairman and Members of the Committee were aware that the Island from its geographical position and the peculiar course of this Cyclone which broke over Mud Point with great force, the height of water and the violence of the wind carrying every-

thing before it, the destruction of cattle was complete, over a thousand having been washed away and drowned.

The food so generously supplied hitherto is now exhausted, and for 5 months the people must be fed by the grant as before any crop is produced, and to enable the cultivators to save themselves from starvation, ploughing cattle is required which was from the first contemplated.

In asking Rs. 2,000 for this particular purpose Mr. Fraser felt that he was within the scope of the charity and the intention of its subscribers.

The application was complied with.

The Chairman observed that with these deductions the surplus had been reduced to Rs. 9,500, and he was not prepared to recommend any other grants until he had the opportunity of reconsidering those cases of relief in which the Committee had given less than they would have done had they been better in funds at the time. These and a few other recent references which the Sub-Committee would dispose of he thought would absorb the surplus, and he would submit them for the confirmation of subscribers if they would be so good as to adjourn the meeting to that day fortnight.

This suggestion was agreed to, and after votes of thanks to the Committee and the Chairman the Meeting broke up.

H. W. I. Wood,
Hony. Secy. and Treasurer.

At the adjourned Meeting of the Subscribers held on Thursday, the 11th May 1865, the Chairman stated that after reserving Rupees 24,500 for the special grants voted on the

27th ultimo, and the sum of Rupees 1,630-13-0 which had been passed by the Sub-Committee in the interval, there was still a surplus of Rs. 8,380-4-11.

The applications submitted to the meeting having been duly considered, the following disposal of the surplus was sanctioned :

	Rs.	As.	P.
The Rev. Mr. Kerry, in part of repairs to a Bungalow	250	0	0
The Rev. Dr. Mullens for the cases named in his letter of 4th May	600	0	0
The District Charitable Society (2nd donation, making altogether Rs. 10,000) ...	2,500	0	0
Gabriel Anthony	200	0	0
and the balance to the Commissioner of the 24-Pergunnahs for distribution among those who still required relief and with special reference to the Rev. Mr. Driberg's application for a grant for the purchase of cattle for the natives in his district	4,830	4	11
Total Rs.	8,380	4	11

The operations of the Fund having been thus brought to a close, the meeting separated after a vote of thanks to the Chair.

DAVID COWIE,
Chairman.

FIRST BENGAL AND ORISSA FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

From the "Englishman" of 14th August 1866.

In compliance with a numerously signed requisition to the Sheriff from the inhabitants of Calcutta, a public meeting was held in the Town Hall yesterday afternoon, to take measures for the relief of the sufferers from the famine, in and near Calcutta.

The Chair was taken by Mr. Seth Apcar—the Sheriff—who opened the proceedings by reading the requisition, in compliance with which the meeting was called, and spoke as follows :—

"The duties which devolve upon your Sheriff on occasions like the present are so purely nominal that you will not expect from me more than a very few introductory remarks. I think it right to state that it is upwards of two months since it was first proposed to hold a public meeting in reference to the famine, but it was thought better to postpone it because it had been intimated that Government held a balance of 4 or 5 lakhs of Rupees of the old famine fund which it was ready to make over for the relief of the famine-stricken districts, and it remained to be seen how far this amount would meet the requirements. And then on account of the late monetary crisis both in London and here, it being felt that any appeal from a public meeting for contributions at such a juncture would be most ill-timed. It was resolved accordingly to wait for a more fitting season, and I trust you will agree with me that that season has now arrived. The monetary crisis here as well as in London has happily passed away,

and there have been very few commercial failures among us, and though it will be very long before the sad effects of the failure of the Agra and Masterman's Bank are forgotten, let us hope that those whose means by the goodness of God remain intact at this trying time will show their gratitude to Him, as well as their sympathy for sufferers of every degree, by increasing their contribution for the support of the starving masses around us. When the numerously signed requisition was put into my hands, I had no hesitation in complying with its request, and accordingly summoned a meeting of the inhabitants for this afternoon, and I say how exceedingly gratifying it is to find the summons so cordially responded to by the numerous assembly before me. It was not till afterwards that I learned that our energetic Commissioner of Police had already formed a Committee, apparently to carry out the very object for which it was proposed that this meeting should be held. Had the requisitionists known of this earlier it is not improbable that they might have considered any action on their part unnecessary, and probably Mr. Stuart Hogg would have thought it unnecessary to form his Committee had he known of the movement in favor of a public meeting. Manifestly there was no occasion for both movements, and it is unfortunate that both were set on foot on the same day without reference to each other. It, therefore, became a question with those who had taken the lead in moving for this meeting whether it should be proceeded with or abandoned, and being consulted I felt, having regard to the number and position of those by whom the requisition was signed, I could not in courtesy to them refuse their request, and I now feel quite satisfied in looking to the numbers present here that my action in this respect will meet

with your approval; and I am happy to be able to announce to you that there is no reason to apprehend any want of harmony between the two movements. In conclusion, though the occasion which brings us together is one of the saddest which could assemble any community to united action, the cause, that of aiding suffering humanity is one of the very noblest which can enlist our sympathies and animate our labours; and I feel it a very high honour to be permitted to associate with you in such labours by presiding on such an occasion as this. I feel sure that in answer to the invitation which this meeting will give, the community of this City and Presidency will not disappoint the expectations as to their liberality which their conduct in years gone by leads us to entertain. With your permission, I will now call upon the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Phear to move the first resolution."

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PHEAR, said:—"GENTLEMEN AND LADIES: The emergency by which we are called together this afternoon is too well known, and is felt by all. A grievous famine has stricken this fair province, and we are called together to relieve our suffering fellow-creatures. The two resolutions which are considered to be sufficient for the organisation of a Committee will, I think, be found to meet with your ready acceptance. I assume that all present come animated with one mind, and as it has been entrusted to me to move the first resolution, I do so with much pleasure, feeling confident that no words of persuasion on my part will be needed to lead you to adopt it. As yet you have not heard much of the features of the distress that is so wide-spread around us, nor do I propose to go into them. The speakers who follow after me are better

able to do so than I am. There can be no question that the period when private benevolence was sufficient to feed the famishing inhabitants of the town has gone by. This great calamity which has overtaken us began by little and little, and has at last overshot the whole length and breadth of the land. Gentlemen, famishing thousands, I may say tens of thousands, have already trooped into the streets of this city, and it is beyond question that the evil has how reached such a head that it is impossible to be checked by isolated efforts, however well directed. In combination alone can we hope to find the remedy. It will be in the remembrance of those whose memory leads them back to the happy homes of England, that even there, where there is hardly a nook or corner throughout the land, where there is not a man of wealth and benevolence, with open purse, ready to give relief—even there in a country so situated, calamities occur like the present when those who can help, feel bound to rise as one man, and share their substance with those who have it not. We don't meet to enquire into the origin or seek into the continuing causes of the distress now prevailing. It may be that it might have been discovered earlier, and it may be that it was of such a nature when first ascertained, that it might have been dealt with, with more or less success, Such enquiries would be now out of place. It does not concern our present purpose, and we are not asked to enter into it. This, however, leads me into a matter which I am not willing to pass by on such a public occasion as this, without a brief note. When the people in the extremity of their distress cried aloud for help, the native press went further and asked that the authorities should exercise a certain control over the private means of individuals,

which if carried out would only be paralelled by reference to the acts of the Revolutionary Tribunal of France, seventy odd years ago. This said very little for the credit of those who professed to stand forward as teachers of their fellow-men, and showed them to be but little advanced beyond their ignorance. The Government has in this instance acted admirably. It has employed its executive organization for the distribution of charitable funds, and for administering relief to a large number of destitute poor, and without usurping the province, or invading the functions of private enterprise. Now the time is come for us to come and step forward to aid those who are already in the breach. I address myself especially to the European portion of those present. The Native gentlemen of Bengal, who saw the crisis earlier, came forward to meet it; they have done wonders, and what they have done has extorted our highest admiration (Cheers.) They have done their work quietly and without looking for public praise. Notwithstanding what has been done, however, the famine-stricken multitude are still streaming into our town, and what this indicates I ask those who have had experience to say. When it is considered the feeling the natives have on the subject of *caste*, we can believe the exhausted state they must be in before they would consent to crawl and receive their daily food from the hands of aliens and strangers. It is with the greatest confidence that I ask you to adopt the first resolution :"—

"In view of the very great distress existing among the poor owing to the famine raging in some districts, and the scarcity of food prevailing in many others of Lower Bengal, and considering that many weeks may elapse before material

relief is obtained from the new crops coming forward, this meeting desires to record its admiration for the munificent liberality with which the native communities of Calcutta and other cities are meeting the wants of their famishing fellow-countrymen, and its opinion that the time has now arrived when a Committee should be formed with a view of inviting subscriptions for the relief of the destitute poor that have for the last few months been flocking into Calcutta from all parts of Lower Bengal, and also for assisting the Suburbs and the towns and villages in the vicinity of Calcutta."

I will just add a few words more and I will trespass on your time no longer. Most of us, I speak of the Europeans, are in some sense foreigners in the land. We have cast in our lot with its people. Do we not monopolise all the high places? Do we not appropriate to ourselves as much as we can of the good things of the land? Shall we share in the profits of the partnership and refuse to bear our portion of the losses? (Applause). While here let us be proud to take our place among the people of the land. Do not let them in their extremity ask in vain. When you are asked, forget all that tends to create a severance between race and race, between class and class, and remember only that our native brethren are stricken by a great calamity, that we are in a position to help them. Remembering this you will not hesitate a moment what answer to give. *The learned Gentleman resumed his seat amid loud applause.*

Mr. R. Scott Moncrieff rose to second the resolution and said:—"When a cause is of such a nature as to constrain one of the Judges of the High Court to leave the Bench to hold a brief at the Bar of public opinion, it is one of no ordinary importance. If ever there was a cause

to justify such a precedent as this, this is it, and if it gives Mr. Justice Phear pleasure (and I believe it does) to propose the resolution, allow me to say that it gives me pleasure, and I feel it to be an honor to take a part in the proceedings by holding the brief of a junior counsel, and following a leader so learned and so distinguished. There have been great difficulties in the way of getting up this meeting. Many thought it unnecessary to call a public meeting such as this, for such an object. I differ from them, and think that in such a large community as this, it was the best course to be adopted. Some of you present, looking back, can doubtless call to mind several meetings in this hall. Some have been of a political character and very stormy; such I never hope to see again, and some of them have been as this, of a peaceful kind. A meeting was held in this hall for the relief of the distressed Lancashire operatives. If it was necessary to hold a public meeting then, is it not necessary to have a meeting now when there is such a great calamity nearer home? The extent of the famine has been adverted to. It commences at Benares, runs all along the valley of the Ganges, includes the whole province of Orissa, and extends far away into the neighbouring Presidency of Madras. I question whether in the history of India there ever was such a scarcity of food before. It may be said that it is very late in the day for a meeting to be held, and no doubt it is, but reasons have been given why it was not called before. If it had been called when the want first made itself felt, it would have found us in the midst of a dark and cloudy monetary crisis, and it is doubtful whether the call would have been responded to cordially. Besides this the Government had stated that they would place the balance of the old famine fund, between 3 to 4 lacs, for

the relief of the distressed districts. One of the objections to the meeting was that it would interfere with Native charity. This had been so far spread abroad that some Native gentlemen called at my office and asked me if it was so, and I pledged myself to the negative. This pledge I must now to a certain extent draw back from, and I will tell the Native gentlemen of one kind of Native charity that would be all the better for European interference. A gentleman from Tirhoot informs me that the distress is very bad there. He instanced cases of people dying in houses, and the chowkeydars threatening the inhabitants that unless they make it worth their while, they will make a report to the thannah, and my informant tells me that a number of doors are closed against the poor wandering wretches owing to this most cursed system. I had hoped that this was a single case, but I was amazed when I heard last week that precisely the same thing had occurred between Calcutta and Diamond Harbour. It is sad to see that there are men so heartless and greedy of gain as to work on the fears of their fellows for the sake of a few pice, and lead them to shut their doors against their fellow countrymen. One object to be gained by a general Committee would be that all idle, lazy vagabonds would be excluded from the relief, and that this was desirable, my friends fully agreed with me. While talking of the efforts made by the Native gentlemen, I am delighted to bear my testimony to what is the theme of conversation all over Bengal. They have been doing a great and good work, under the surface as it were. In nearly every station in the Mofussil, the Magistrates, Collectors, and other officials have been foremost in bringing forward measures of relief, and these have been well backed up by the Missionaries, Planters, &c., and we

ought to render them our hearty thanks. And not only in the Mofussil, but in Calcutta, had great assistance been given. If he were to mention names it would appear invidious, but he would mention one mercantile firm, who, although full of business of their own, wrote to say that they would receive subscriptions. This they did, and they sent up to various parts of the province no less than Rs. 16,000 in small sums. And he would also mention a gentleman in private life also communicated with seventeen or eighteen different centres of relief, and on obtaining their reports sent considerable help. With regard to another of the difficulties of getting up this meeting. Surely the ladies present are not aware that they are countenancing an attack upon Government; and yet this has actually been put forward, and it has been discussed in clubs and drawing-rooms, that the meeting was to open an avenue of attack upon the Government of Bengal. I think, however, this idea may be dismissed with the contempt it deserves. Some weeks ago I received an invitation to attend at the Board of Revenue, on the sitting days, when the famine was discussed. I have sat there for six weeks, heard all the reports read, and know what has been done. No Committee that we could organise could do their work more heartily or effectually. Every district has been carefully attended to; not a single application for funds has been refused, and in many cases more money has been given than has been asked for. The difficulties in their way have been almost insuperable, and which no man could have overcome, and no one have foreseen. It was said at first that there was enough rice stored in the district to last through the famine. If the Government had shipped rice to Orissa at first, and it had afterwards turned out that there was sufficient in the district, they would have been just

as much ridiculed for sending food where there was sufficient, as they have been blamed for not having done it in time (cries of No, No) Well I will not press that, as there seems to be a difference of opinion. It has been said also that Calcutta has been overlooked. The Government, he believed, would not take any steps in the Town until the exigency was ten times greater than it was at present, and it is their opinion, as it is mine, that Calcutta is able to look after its own poor. It is stated in the first resolution that the estimated amount of funds required is Rs. 1,35,000, but I think it will be better to err on the right side and call for say, 2 lacs. It will be seen by the last paragraph of the resolution that it is limited to Calcutta and the Suburbs. Many persons think that the aid should be distributed over an unlimited area, but that I consider would be unwise, and it would leave us open to be called on for relief for places where it was not possible we could give any. In conclusion I will say that we should recollect the relief the Natives of India gave to our fellow-countrymen, and we should do the same by them. (Applause.)

Mr. JOHN COCHRANE then addressed the Meeting in support of the resolution as follows:—"The enormous exportation of rice and the failure of the corps have caused the calamity which we all deplore. With the report before me, one can barely credit the fact that nineteen millions of maunds were exported in 1864 and 1865, an amount nearly double that of preceding years. Occurring at such a period it was an additional misfortune. The inhabitants of this country, Sir, have peculiar claims on the Government. Living entirely on rice their lives are dependent on the crops. In England we have the poor-law to fall back on, but such has no application to India. There is also a

matter connected with the revenue of the State which distinguishes India from European countries. Here the greatest portion of the produce of the land goes as revenue to Government. To my view, and I utter it without the remotest intention of giving offence, it seems the bounden duty of Government to interefere in an emergency like the present, in order to save the lives of our fellow-subjects. By the advances already made they have assented to the truth of the principle itself, and in so doing have followed the course adopted by our own Government in other years. In the great famine which took place in 1770 we find the Government, though sadly pressed for money at the time, laying by 30 lacs of Rupees for the purposes of relief. In their letter to the home authorities, of date the 20th of June 1770, they state that they had administered relief by public contributions to the poor by remission of collections and by importation from the neighbouring provinces. We find too, Sir, that that great man whose statue is without these walls, Warren Hastings, went the length of ordering an embargo on the shipping to avert an apprehended famine, a measure, I freely admit, which can only be justified by extreme necessity which is an exception to all rules whether of political economy or otherwise. Such has been the course pursued by former Governments; and I make no doubt that whatever measures are proposed by this assembly such will be cheerfully supported by authority. Let no one be fearful that such advances, if made, will be repudiated by the Home Government. Before one could entertain such a supposition, justice and humanity must have fled from England, and the nation have become no longer the same men. But it cannot be. Such measures will be sure of sanction and applause by every one

who has a heart to feel or an understanding to appeal to regarding the terrible scenes of desolation, privation and misery which are all around us. It is some relief to turn from so sad a picture to contemplate the noble and generous conduct of the Native inhabitants of Calcutta. Long as I have been in this land, amid all the slanders which have been uttered against them—never did I for a moment doubt that in kindness to their relatives, and in never-failing charity to all men, the Natives of India stood foremost of the nations of the world. Well and nobly have the Native gentlemen of Calcutta performed their duty. In this sacred and holy task the Native ladies of this city have not been wanting. It was not expected from them; they were women. Some of you may remember the noble tribute to the female sex of all countries paid by the weary and wayworn traveller, the wanderer in many a clime—*Lediard.* Speaking of their conduct to him in moments of calamity and distress, he observed—"If I was hungry or thirsty, wet or sick, they did not hesitate, as men do, to perform a generous action. In so kind a manner did they minister to my relief, that if I was thirsty I drank the sweetest draught, and if hungry I ate the coarsest morsel with a double relish." Where all have acted so well, I trust I may be pardoned for naming one respected lady, the mother of the kind-hearted Heralall Seal. She deserves a crown of gold for remembering the forsaken and for her goodness to the unfortunate and distressed. Feeling strongly on these matters, I could not, Sir, allow these proceedings to close without uttering my sentiments; they may be valueless, but they are at least sincere.

Mr. Stuart Hogg then addressed the Meeting. He said that his speech would be only a dry statistical state-

ment of facts, showing how his Committee was first formed and its results. The following is the statement given by Mr. Hogg: –

Report on the Calcutta Local Relief Committee on the Pauperism in the Town of Calcutta, and the measures proposed to meet the existing emergency.

The actual extent of pauperism now prevailing in Calcutta will be best understood from returns of the numbers daily fed and provided with shelter within the City and Suburbs. The particulars noted below have been obtained by careful enquiry through the agency of the Executive Police, and may be depended on as approximately correct.

Statement of Paupers fed.

Locality.	By Whom Fed.	No. Fed.
Sobha Bazar Street -	Unundlal Doss -	150
Mujidbarry Street -	Obhoye Churn Goho -	60
Rajah Nubkishen's Street -	Rajah Kali Kishen -	150
Pathooria Ghat Street -	Hullodhur Doss & others -	5,000
Ditto Ditto -	Judoonauth Mullick -	200
Neemtollah Street -	Peary Chand Mittra -	200
Patooria Ghat Street -	Jotendro Mohun Tagore -	300
Prosono Coomar Tagore's Street - -	Prosono Coomar Tagore -	150
Mooktaram Baboo's Street -	Rajendro Mullick -	1,000
Ditto Ditto -	Dwarkanath Mittre -	200
Ditto Ditto -	Peary Chand Sircar -	800
Baronosy Ghose's Street -	Hurro Chunder Ghose -	250
Panchee Dhobany's Lane -	Muddunmohun Chatterjee -	70
Chitpore Road -	Radhakisto Sett -	75
Dwarkanath Tagore's Street-	Debendronath Tagore -	100
Neemoo Mullick's Ghat -	Hajee Zacharia & others -	1500
Rajah's Kuttra -	Oomachurn Nundy & others	1,500
Chunam Gully -	Govindchunder Dhur and others -	500
Ruttun Mistry's Lane -	Tarucknath Dutt & others -	800
Mirzapore Street -	Ranee Sornomoe & others	300
Heederam Banerjee's Lane -	Ramnarain Moteelol and others ...	450
	Grand Total ...	13,755

Adding the number in the hospitals to the number that crowd for food at the different charities it gives a total of 14,634 individuals, which fairly represent the proximate number of paupers in Calcutta, as although, on the one hand, there has to be added small batches supported by the benevolence of natives of limited means in all parts of the town, yet, on the other hand, there must be deducted from the total number of those fed at the large charities a considerable percentage of able-bodied persons, who, from indolence, prefer living on the bounty of others to working for their livelihood.

It must also be kept in view that the daily influx of paupers is considerable. The new arrivals per diem may safely be estimated at not less than 200, and it is very much to be feared that this average will progressively increase for at least some time to come.

The figures given above will convey an idea of the nature and extent of the calamity which the Calcutta public are called upon to mitigate. Nor is it mere pauperism in its simple form that needs to be alleviated, as there is at present an alarmingly increased number of sick paupers demanding immediate relief.

The first and most urgent want therefore to be immediately met is additional hospital accommodation.

The large and increasing numbers that are daily removed for Medical treatment have already greatly overcrowded all the available space in the existing hospitals, and arrangements must be made at once for more infirmaries for the sick and the dying. It is proposed to provide

additional hospital accommodation in the following localities :—

East of Cornwallis Square, where there is a large building belonging to the Justices, and at a place close to Cornwallis Square in Manicktollah, where six large sheds have been erected by the Health Officer.

These places have been inspected and approved of by Dr. Green, the Inspector General of Hospitals, who is of opinion that 600 persons can be accommodated in them.

Dr. Smith has kindly tendered his services, and it is proposed to place these hospitals under his charge with an appropriate establishment. It is hoped that Government will provide the Subordinate Medical Establishment and English Medicines. The remaining expenses will be paid for by the Committee.

A small hospital, capable of containing 300 persons, is also to be established at Chitpore under the charge of Dr. Naylor.

The next great object to be kept in view in carrying out measures of relief is to check, as far as possible, indiscriminate charity. It is not intended to interfere in the slightest degree with those Native gentlemen, who have so nobly taken the lead in supplying food to the starving multitude.

But at the same time it will doubtless be acknowledged on all hands that there is nothing more demoralizing to the laboring classes than to encourage a spirit of mendicancy by doling out alms without discrimination alike to the famine stricken, starving, and indolent able-bodied vagabonds. At most of the feeding places in Calcutta may be

seen a large percentage of imposters and idlers belonging to the Town, such as coolies, dhangurs, grass-cutters, &c., the generality of them being able-bodied and fit for work. These should all be firmly denied any portion in a charity meant only for the victims of famine and disease. With a view to keep out the undeserving it is proposed to request the managers of all the charities to issue tickets to a certain number of persons who are not in a fit state to work, and to admit none others to their daily distribution of food. It should also be arranged that the feeding be at the same time in every place, as it would check a common practice among the paupers of attending several charities in one day.

As soon as the ticket system is introduced, it is proposed to admit into the sheds on the Strand only the holders of tickets and none else.

In this way will be definitely ascertained the precise numbers that are being supported at the different charities, and all other paupers will be sent away and provided for at a Paupers' camp, which it is proposed to form in Chitpore.

It being only a question of time how long the private feeding places are likely to be kept up, no sooner one or more of them stop operations than the paupers, accustomed to go there, will be at once removed to the place of refuge in Chitpore. All the sturdy beggars, if they still choose to persist in mendicancy, will likewise be sent to the Paupers' camp.

At present there are in the Town many thousand paupers, chiefly women and children of the weaver class from the

Jehanabad Sub-Division in Hooghly District. It has been arranged with the Board of Revenue that endeavours are to be made to send these persons back to their villages in Steamers provided by Government, and the Board are prepared to organize relief funds at the places to which they are to return.

Thus the City will be gradually relieved from the present inundation of pauperism.

The Paupers' camp will be placed under proper regulations and an effective supervision, and above all the principle will be strictly enforced of exacting labor from all who are able to work.

Some of the principal public works on which the able-bodied paupers may profitably be employed may be mentioned :—

Digging a canal from Dum-Dum road to the river which work is to be undertaken by Government.

Digging a Tank in the Northern portion of the Town.

Breaking stone for the Municipality.

Besides the above, small batches of paupers can be employed in other public works.

All work performed by the paupers will be paid for by the Department on whose account executed, to the Committee at the usual contract rates.

The able-bodied paupers will, in return for their labor, receive food and one anna per diem, and women and children half anna, in addition to food, shelter, and clothing.

It is considered expedient to make a small money payment to the paupers who work willingly, as without it

there would be no incitement to exertion; but, on the other hand, the remuneration must be so low as not to offer any attraction to coolies able to obtain work elsewhere.

Owing to the large number of infants and children, arrangements to provide for those who are either deserted by or lose their parents, is a matter deserving of serious consideration

To meet this want a Foundling Refuge has already been started at the Sukea Police Station, where all infants and children found unprotected are at once sent and well cared for.

Inquiries are then set on foot for their parents, and any person in search of a lost child is directed to the Foundling Refuge.

It is proposed to enlarge this establishment and to keep all foundlings for several months, during which time every endeavour will be made to trace their relatives. Should these efforts fail, the subsequent disposal of the children will hereafter receive the consideration of the Committee.

The accommodation in Town available for shelter of the destitute consists of a number of sheds on the Strand Bank, and capable of containing about 4,000 persons.

It is confidently believed that when the organized system now proposed is fairly at work, this accommodation will be amply sufficient, as only the recipients of food from the Native charities will be allowed to avail themselves of it. No more sheds are, therefore, proposed inside the Town unless found absolutely necessary.

Immediately to the North of the Chitpore Bridge sheds are proposed to be constructed capable of accommodating 5,000 persons.

Further up the Cossipore Road another site will be selected for an encampment. At the former place able-bodied persons, who are to be compelled to work, will be collected. At the latter place the weak and infirm, who are not expected to work, will be sheltered and medical attendance provided.

All these sheds are to be close to the river bank, and the latrines will, if possible, be arranged over the river by the construction of Bridges of Boats. This will greatly facilitate the conservancy of the place, which is the greatest difficulty we have to contend with.

As it was believed that the distress at Ooloobariah was considerable, the Committee availed themselves of the kind and cordial assistance of Mr. N. A. Chick and deputed him to conduct local enquiries at Ooloobariah. From the Report, received from Mr. Chick, it is proved, beyond doubt, that measures for relieving the destitute should be organised at Ooloobariah, and above all that no time should be lost in establishing a Hospital at that place. The Committee are of opinion that the Board of Revenue should be moved to issue orders to the Magistrate of Howrah, with a view to the above suggestions being carried out. The Commissioner of Police has agreed to place himself in immediate communication with the Board on the subject, and to intimate the readiness of the Committee to co-operate and assist to the utmost of their power and means.

The number of paupers which cross over from Howrah is reported to be very great, and it is believed that up to

the present time, there has been no endeavour to organize any systematic measure of relief. The Committee, therefore, request that the Honorary Secretary will be good enough to suggest to the Magistrate of Howrah the expediency of at once originating some system, and further to request him to favor the Committee with a report of the actual extent of pauperism in his District, intimating at the same time the desire of the Committee to assist and co-operate with him.

The Committee, in order to give the public a general idea of the lowest amount of pecuniary assistance which will be required for the relief of the poor in Calcutta alone, and assisting them to return to their homes, beg to submit the following statement :—

Shelter for 10,000 persons ...	...	Rs.	10,000
Food for ditto for 3 months @ 3 Rs. per head per month ...	...	„	90,000
Clothing and contingencies ...	...	„	10,000
Hospital charges for 800 persons, including establishments at 6 Rs. per head per month for 3 months ...	...	„	14,400
Assisting paupers to return to their homes	...	„	10,000
	Total, Rs.		1,34,400

Say 1,35,000 Rs.

W. P. DAVIS,

Hon. Secy. to Relief Committee.

11th August, 1866.

Mr. Hogg also read some extracts from another report and concluded by saying that at the time the Committee was formed he was not aware that a public meeting had been called. If the public were satisfied with their labours, they were willing to be re-appointed, or if not they would hand over their funds and would still do their best for the object in view to the utmost of their power. A telegram had been received that day from

the Governor-General at Simla, stating that he cordially approved of the meeting and requestimg himself to be put down for Rs. 500 a month as long as there was any necessity for it, and the Lieutenant-Governor also desired to have his name put down for Rs. 500 donation.

THE HON'BLE MR. SETON-KARR supported the resolution. He said that the Government had instituted measures of relief for the country by no means insufficient. The Natives with their princely liberality had been giving away their charities, without any caste or class distinction; to Hindoos and Mohamedans alike. He prayed against a repetition of that calamity spoken of by Mr. Cochrane, at a time when it was said by a great historian, that so feeble and so few were the survivors, that they scarcely sufficed to carry their dead to the burning pile, or throw them into the holy river, and when the streets of Calcutta were choked with the dying and the dead. Some time ago the aid of the public was invoked for the sufferers in the N. W. Provinces, and also for the distressed operatives in Lancashire, and two years ago an appeal for aid was made on behalf of the sufferers by the hurricane in 1864. The present calamity was not remote and distant like the distress in the North-West Provinces, and in Lancashire, or of a transient character like the hurricane of 1864, but it was brought home as it were to the very doors of civilisation. In conclusion he trusted that the resolutions would be sufficient for a series of measures commensurate to the extent of the calamity. The resolution was then put and carried.

BABOO RAMANAUTH TAGORE returned thanks on behalf of the Native gentlemen. He said there was one thing

he would mention even at the risk of being thought eulogistic, and that was that several Native gentlemen had particularly wished him to state that they had only done their duty and did not wish to claim any credit for it.

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE CAMPBELL wished to add his testimony and personal experience, and also to record his admiration at the way in which the Native gentlemen had given relief. He wished that the gentleman who seconded the resolution had not introduced that anti-charity story, and which he considered to be a somewhat apocryphal one. He had been round and seen these Native charities in full operation, and he could say that it gave equal pleasure to the giver as to the receiver. Not only did they give away money and food, but were generally present themselves at the distribution, and he had himself seen learned professors in cooks' dresses handing round milk, &c., to women and children. Nothing could be more admirable than the way in which their charities were directed. An ample and sufficient meal was given, and in nine cases out of ten the recipients were women and children or paupers, who were unable to work, and it would be hardly fair to criticise the donors because a very few received relief where they were not entitled to it. There should be no interference with the Natives in the charity, but let the help be as it was suggested, an auxiliary one in erecting sheds, hospitals, &c., that were urgently required.

MR. J. B. ROBERTS suggested that some thing should be done to get this great influx of pauperism back to their own country. He had heard that some villages were

already depopulated, and if they were kept here there would be another failure in the crops from being unable to reap it properly.

THE REV. MR. BROMEHEAD moved the second resolution as follows:—

"That this Meeting, while expressing entire confidence in the Committee recently formed by Mr. S. Hogg, Commissioner of Police, for the purpose indicated above, suggests that they request the gentlemen named hereafter to join them, with power to add to their number, and hereby invites the British communities of Bengal, the North-West, the Punjab, the Central Provinces, British Burmah, and also of the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay, to send their contributions to the Committee in question to be disbursed at their discretion."

The Members of the Committee thus proposed were the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Norman, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Phear, the Hon'ble D. Cowie, Mr. S. Apcar, Rajah Kalli Kissen Bahadoor, Baboo Tareeneychurn Banerjee, Manockjee Rustomjee, Cowar Suttyanund Ghosaul, Mr. S. E. J. Clarke, and Colonel Bacon. He thought that they should express their entire confidence in Mr. Hogg's Committee who had collected a large sum of money. There was one view of the subject that had not been touched on by previous speakers and he would say a few words on it. He had that morning visited the Police hospital at the back of St. James' Church, and it could not be believed the state of misery, wretchedness, and entire prostration which the poor wretches seemed to be in. By all means let every one who could, visit that hospital, and he was sure that it would draw money out of them faster than any thing else.

The poor wretches who were so crowded together wanted more space, more air, and buildings better suited for them to get health in than those they were in. They should take care that funds were not wanting for the erection of proper buildings, especially those out of the town, where the starving multitude could be housed and fed. He did not at first see how they could ask the inhabitants of the whole Presidency to assist them, when the money was for the relief of the poor in and around Calcutta only, and he still saw a difficulty in the matter. If they could collect such large sums as were spoken of, let them allow their charity to flow through the length and breadth of the land, and relieve distress where it was most prevalent (applause).

COLONEL NICHOLLS seconded the resolution. He would lend his humble efforts to assist the object by every means in his power. The full and clear manner in which Mr. Hogg, the Chairman of the Committee, had explained his actions entitled him to entire confidence and they had performed their duty in a most satisfactory manner.

RAJAH KALLI KRISHNA, BAHADOOR, said that great praise was due to Mr. Hogg for the steps he had taken on behalf of the suffering and destitute poor and also for the pecuniary aid that had been given through his Committee. (Hear, hear.)

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NORMAN thanked the meeting on behalf of himself and the other gentlemen nominated with him for the trust they had reposed in them. He congratulated the Native community on coming forward with such spirit to the relief of their distressed fellow countrymen, and which, he said, would hardly be met with in any other city in the world.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman on the motion of Manockjee Rustomjee, Esq, and the meeting terminated.

Bengal and Orissa Famine Relief Fund.

	Rs.	As.	P.
Amount subscribed	6,02,154	8	1
Less short received	293	3	5
Total collections ...	6,01,861	4	8
Amount spent in Calcutta	1,65,768	15	9
„ assigned to the Foundlings ...	1,00,000	0	0
„ placed with Mr. Hogg to meet sundry expenses	50,000	0	0
„ assigned for relief in various districts and paid to the Board of Revenue	2,80,550	0	0
Balance—Cash 467-5-0 and Bank of Bengal 5,074-15-11. This balance will be transferred to the new Fund account	5,542	4	11
Total ...	6,01,861	4	8

Calcutta, 3rd April 1867.

From the Hon'ble A Eden, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of Police,—(No. 3413, dated the 28th December 1866.)

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1662, dated the 17th instant, forwarding the report of a meeting of the General Committee of the Bengal and Orissa Famine Relief Fund, held on the 12th instant, and the 12th Report of the Executive Committee.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor desires me to take this opportunity of expressing his great satisfaction at the way in which the funds at the disposal of the Executive Committee have been administered, and His Honor requests that the thanks of the Government may be conveyed to each Member of the Committee, as well as to each of the Honorary Secretaries, to Baboo Rajendro Mullick, to Drs. Francis, Smith, Bourne and Shircore, to the Lady Superioress of Loretto House, to Dr. Tonnerre, and to Superintendent Graves.

3. To yourself, His Honor desires me to offer the special thanks of the Government for your timely adoption of measures for the relief of the poor of Calcutta and its vicinity, and for the ability, judgment, and energy with which you have directed the Committee's operations. It is, however, chiefly owing to the unsparing liberality of the public throughout India, in responding to the appeal that was made to them, that the results now reported have been so completely and successfully attained, and that a large sum has also been provided to aid the relief operations in the interior of the country.

4. I am to request that you will be so good as to report, as to the plan you would propose to adopt for the disposal of the Orphans, for whom so liberal a provision has been made by the Committee, and (separately) what permanent arrangement you would make for hospital accommodation and attendance for the pauper sick of Calcutta.

5. It is a matter of sincere congratulation that the necessity for further relief operations as respects feeding, clothing, and sheltering the poor in Calcutta has entirely ceased, and that the prospects of the harvest and the state of the market preclude, for the present, all apprehension of its recurrence.

No. 1711.

COPY forwarded to H. W. I. Wood, Esq., for information.

STUART HOGG,
Commissioner of Police.

The 29th December 1866.

Extract from a Despatch from the Right Hon'ble Viscount Cranborne, M.P., *Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India in Council, No.* 15, *dated India Office, London, the 28th February* 1867.

PARA. 2. I observe from the papers forwarded with your despatch under reply that the Committee of the Bengal and Orissa Famine Relief Fund consider that the active portion of their duties have now been brought to a close.. The subscriptions that have been collected under the auspices of the Committee, amounting to so large a sum as

Rupees 5,22,439-1-3, (increased to Rs. 6,01,861-4-8,) reflect the utmost credit, as well on the zeal and energy of its members as on the benevolence of the contributors; and the admirable and judicious distribution of the funds entrusted to the care of the Committee merits the warmest thanks of Her Majesty's Government. I request, therefore, that you will express to Mr. Stuart Hogg, the Chairman, and, through him, to the Honorary Secretaries, the Doctors, Executive Committee and Native Gentlemen who have been so devoted and liberal of their active services in this time of extreme distress, the sense entertained of their services by myself in common with every Member of my Council. The distribution which it is proposed to make of the surplus of the funds shows as discriminating a regard for the welfare of the surviving sufferers from the famine as has been evinced in the distribution of the remainder of the funds.

No. 1600.

FORWARDED to Mr. Stuart Hogg, late Chairman, Orissa Famine Relief Committee, for information.

By Order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

H. L. HARRISON,
Junior Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 18th April 1867.

FORWARDED to H. W. I. WOOD, ESQ.,
Joint Honorary Secretary.

STUART HOGG,
Late Chairman, Bengal and Orissa Famine Relief Fund.

SECOND BENGAL AND ORISSA FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

From the "Englishman" of 14th February 1867.

In pursuance of a numerously signed requisition to the Sheriff, a public meeting in the Town Hall was called for Tuesday evening, the 12th February 1867, for the purpose of considering what measures were necessary for the continued relief of the destitute and orphans in Orissa. The meeting was very numerously attended by the most influential members of both the European and Native community. A large number of ladies were also present. The meeting was presided over by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General. Among the gentlemen present, we noticed His Honor the Lieutenant-Goveror of Bengal, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, Sir W. Mansfield, the Right Hon. Mr. Massey, the Hon. Mr. Maine, the Hon. Justice Norman, the Hon. Justice Seton-Karr, the Hon. W. Grey, the Hon. Shaw Stewart, the Hon. T. H. Cowie, the Hon. A. Eden, Mr. F. Schiller, Mr. Scott Moncrieff, Mr. H. Crooke, Baboo Kristo Doss Pal, Rajah Kali Krisna Bahadoor, Mr. V. H. Schalch, Mr. J. B. Knight, Brigadier General Welchman, Baboo Kissory Chand Mittra, Mr. S. Apcar, Captain G. R. Fenwick, Mr. C. Lazarus, Baboo Degumber Mitter, Mr. J. B. Roberts, Mr. Manockjee Rustomjee, and others.

His Excellency the Viceroy, who, on rising, was greeted with repeated rounds of applause, opened the meeting as follows:—"The object for which you have been called together this evening is one which, I feel certain, will

enlist all your sympathies, and all your benevolence. It is an object, I venture to say, on which there ought to be no difference of opinion—no scope for controversy. It is for a purpose in which all men can heartily unite, whatever may be their race or creed. We are anxious to collect money with which to assist the State in relieving the great, the terrible distress, which still prevails in parts of Orissa; and, more especially, to obtain funds for the support of the numerous Orphans, whom the dire calamities of last year have deprived of their natural protectors. I will here remind you that, in 1865, there was a general failure of the crops in the three Districts of Orissa, followed by very indifferent harvests in 1866; while, in the Autumn of that year, a large part of the Province was also inundated. The floods of the Mahanuddee, and other rivers, broke through their embankments, and submerged extensive tracts of land in their vicinity. All the crops in these localities were spoiled, and property, which had escaped the famine, was carried away, or destroyed. What the drought had spared, was engulphed in the wide vortex of waters. In this way one-half the District of Cuttack alone, extending over an area of 1,500 square miles, has been devastated. From the most reliable accounts, it is estimated that from one-fifth to one-fourth of the population of the Province has already perished. What famine and starvation began, disease and pestilence have completed. Through the length and breadth of the land the desolation is general. While the next harvest, however, in many parts promises well, the surviving population of the tracts which have suffered from inundation, is in a very miserable condition. Some time ago the Government of Bengal deputed Mr. Schalch, one of the Members of the Board of Revenue, to visit Orissa, and

ascertain on the spot what should be done in this crisis to help the people. Mr. Schalch has executed his work efficiently and promptly. His report has been published, and gives a sad picture of the wretched condition of many of the people in Orissa. It is estimated that we may have to import into the Province no less than 1,200,000 maunds of rice, equal to about 27,000 tons. We have already arranged for the introduction of half that quantity by the 1st of April, and the rest will follow as rapidly as may be found to be necessary. The Government will supply this food at its own charge, selling it at moderate rates to those who are able to purchase, and will distribute it gratis to the destitute. The Government will also give employment to all the people who are willing and able to work. All this will probably entail a loss of about 20 lakhs of Rupees, £200,000. We shall also have to make some remission of land revenue. We have also agreed to continue the existing assessments, which are about to expire, for twenty years longer; and we have offered to lend the Irrigation Company any money which may be required for the prosecution of their works this year, an offer which the Agent has accepted. But, independent of all this outlay, a further demand arises. There are already upwards of 1,500 orphan children to be provided for, which may increase to 2,000 or more, whose parents have died during the late famine These little creatures are utterly destitute and helpless. It is estimated that £100,000,—ten lakhs of Rupees—are required for their maintenance. I suggested some days ago to the Secretary of State that subscriptions should be raised in England to help us, but I have learnt that much distress also exisis at Home, and that we must not expect any aid from that quarter. This should, however, only incite us to

be up and doing. It makes it the more incumbent that we should do all we can to collect subscriptions in India. I have much hope that many of the Princes and Chiefs, and great Landowners and Bankers will come forward to help their countrymen in this overwhelming crisis. I trust that what may be said this evening will induce every one to subscribe in a liberal spirit, gladly contributing to relieve the awful miseries which God, in his inscrutable decree, has inflicted on the wretched inhabitants of Orissa. The people of India are proverbially charitable and beneficent, and the relief of those who are in want is inculcated in their sacred writings, and in their moral precepts, as a paramount duty. This is a case in which their own countrymen—their own brethren—are concerned, and I have a confident expectation that, on this occasion, they will maintain their ancient reputation."

THE HON'BLE MR. MAINE, in moving the first Resolution, "that this community recognizes the necessity of re-opening a public subscription for the relief of the destitute, and those who have become orphans through the famine," said that, although there were some reasons why his friend Mr. Schiller should have moved this resolution, as President of the Chamber of Commerce, yet he had this advantage in proceeding, that he could, with more propriety, state the deep impression made on his mind by the conduct of this community during the summer and autumn of last year, It was just to say that the resolution only bound the meeting by a pledge, which the greater part of those present, had, in great part, redeemed already. The subscription list had only partially represented the state of feeling here, and there had been a watchful interest and anxiety in men's minds which, among other things, fully justified the mode

in which the Committee was to be constituted under the last resolution. It was, unhappily, not a small thing to say of an Indian community that all differences of feeling and opinion disappeared, but this was the case last summer; and he ventured to describe it as almost a touching incident in the history of these events, that, when the first evidences of a sore famine poured into Calcutta, and the European community stirred itself, and, at the same time, rather chafed at the seeming inaction of the Natives, it suddenly appeared that the Native gentlemen of Calcutta had for weeks been administering relief in their own way, and had been daily feeding thousands at their gates. The resolution included the orphans of the stricken districts, but, as their case was in other hands, he would only freely admit that, when the mode of their education and training had to be settled, very delicate questions would arise. But it was better, frankly and simply, to follow the natural impulse which led benevolent persons to relieve these children. When hereafter the day of discussion arrived, the evil would be sufficient for it. As to the other class comtemplated by the resolution—the destitute of food—His Excellency had described the Government plan. It was idle to argue the propriety of importing food into Orissa. After last year's suffering there ought to be on the spot sufficient food for the probable wants of the population, even though not one single seer should have to be sold. As to the other feature of the Government proposal,—which, however, it would be remembered, was subject to the advice of the Committee to be formed,—there was some misconception abroad. The Government was blamed for selling the rice, instead of distributing it gratuitously. But the censure seemed to be based on imperfect application of the machinery to be em-

ployed. The Government store-keepers would sell their rice at a moderate price, but the actual relief would be administered by Relief Committees taken from all classes, and into their hands would be placed any charitable subscriptions. If these or other funds failed, it was absurd to suppose that the starving would be allowed to die, through the price charged by the Government. The arrangement, which was subject to re-arrangement, might turn out to be one of account only. At present the general disposition was, no doubt, to scatter charity indiscriminately, but it was not to be denied that the Government proposal was open to criticism from the exactly opposite point of view—that of the stricter political economist. It was almost impossible just now to say anything too bad in Calcutta of Political Economy, but yet, such was his faith in the power of any opinion, which takes a scientific shape, that he felt it was the last class of objections which was really the most formidable, and that the Government ran some risk of having undertaken responsibilities, which it cannot discharge in a future emergency, even if it discharged them now. Now, Political Economy had played so large a part in this discussion in this Orissa famine, that he trusted they would allow him to say something about it, however, little suited usually for occasions like these. They knew, as all educated persons knew, that this great science of Political Economy after being ridiculed and clamoured against, for half a century, had at last become part of the general stock of human knowledge; but though it had prevailed, the great mass of mankind was not in reality much wiser or less ignorant than before, and hence persons, who ignorantly talked of the laws of Political Economy, were apt to speak of them as something mysterious and magical, which operat-

ed independently of facts. Now the truth was that the doctrines of Political Economy are valuable just so far as they are a guide to facts. He ventured to say that no writer would render a greater service to India, than one who would point out to what limitations the doctrines of the economists are subject, when applied to a country and a people so anomalous as this. Not only were the facts and circumstances of India very different from those to which the European framers of the science were accustomed, but the very motives from which they deduced their conclusions, though, in a great measure the same, were interfered with by other motives unknown in Europe. Until this service had been rendered to India, it was better to abstain from over-scientific phraseology, and it was possible, he believed, to state in very simple language, the conditions which govern the problem before the Government. Nobody would deny that the grain trade was the greatest trade in the country, as might be expected, when so great a population lived chiefly on grain. The Government, if it wished to compete with it, could not distantly hope to succeed, nor could it supply its place, if it drove it out of the field. On the other hand, the *prestige* of Government was so great in India that it was believed to be able to do much more than it could do, and thus it may easily frighten away those whose natural functions it could not itself discharge. To these conditions the Government plan was adjusted, having been so framed as not in the first instance to frighten away this great auxiliary, but if it turned out that the natural purveyors of the local markets had wholly failed, the system now proposed would have to be abandoned, or only retained nominally, and the Government would have to undertake the vast and never

hitherto successfully-encountered responsibility of feeding, from its own resources, a population whose ordinary means of subsistence were wholly wanting. The obligation which was incumbent on everybody, official and non-official, Native and European, of attempting to aid the Government in the attempt to prevent a recurrence of the catastrophe of last year, had been dwelt on by the Viceroy. The greatness of the calamity of last year seemed to prove the measure of every man's duty this year, of some more than others, of the Government more than all, but in some degree of all. It was simple truth to say that no words could describe the magnitude of that calamity. When he was told of millions perishing of famine, the statement conveyed no clearer idea to his mind, than the figures by which astronomers express the distance of the earth from the sun. It was doubtless unfortunate, that the chief burden should fall, at all events in the first instance, on a community whose liberality had been so highly taxed as this. But in justification of the telegram from the Secretary of State and the Lord Mayor, it might be said that the year had been remarkable all over the world for the multitude of the plagues which had been let loose on it. In Europe, they knew, there had been war and battle in the spring, pestilence in the summer, and, if the latest telegrams were to be believed, something like famine in the winter. The calamities of India had differed from those of Europe only in degree. Whether the Government, going hand in hand with the community, then, could cope with its responsibilies, depended mainly on powers we cannot control; but doubtless an Indian Government could do more than a European Government, and the instinct which pervades all men in works of benevolence, was at

least as strong as that which collected similar meetings at home. Nobody who knew what differences separate an Indian community—differences entailed by the form of Government, and the nature of public employment, and the strong prejudices of race—could fail to rejoice at proof that these differences were not feebler than resemblances which lay deeper in their common human nature. We might all be congratulated that the strong chord of sympathy with human suffering and hardships cuts all discord, and unites us in the discharge of the simple duty expressed in the resolution. (*Great applause.*)

Mr. F. Schiller stated, that he had been called upon to second this resolution, and he did so with very great pleasure, although he could not approve of the means that had been adopted by the Government. He (Mr. Schiller) was, perhaps, the last person to throw any obstacles in the way of charity, but while he was prepared for himself, as well as for the body he represented, to contribute a fair share towards what all must consider a common calamity, he expected that those upon whom rested the responsibility of the good Government of the country would investigate into the indirect causes that led to all this misery (*applause*). He said indirect causes, because he had a strong conviction that much of what had occurred was traceable to causes which were beyond human calculation, and, if this were so, the greater was the necessity to strive and mitigate the evil, and prevent its recurrence. He was not throwing blame upon any individual, but merely upon the system by which this country was governed. This system was continually throwing difficulties and obstacles in the way of the advancement of the country, and until this was broken up, it was useless to expect

that what had occurred to-day could not occur to-morrow. Charity was all very well in itself, but it would not prevent a future famine. If an impression once got footing in the native mind that starvation could be always staved up by charity they would be always having alarms of famine. No time should be lost in pushing forward works of public utility in every possible way, and if the state was not prepared to grapple with these works on account of their magnitude then give every encouragement to private enterprise. He hoped that he had said nothing that could be taken offence at. What he had said was said in the interests of progress in a country where there was a general tendency towards stagnation, *(Loud cheers)*.

The resolution was carried by acclamation.

RAJAH KALI KRISHNA BAHADOOR moved the second Resolution, as follows :—"That special efforts be made to obtain continued subscriptions, as well as donations, for the support of the orphans." In moving the resolution he spoke as follows :—In the first place, our thanksgivings cannot too fervently be offered to the Almighty for the present favourable aspect of Agriculture in a country like India, and more especially Bengal, where by far the majority of her children, have, from time immemorial, held the outturn of the fields in high estimation ; a witness, Ram Chundra, Sovereign of Ayodhya—the modern Oudh—who on returning to his capital after a protracted absence, enquired of his delegated brother Bharáta chiefly after the prospect of the crops, as on their good state depended the welfare of the people. The memorable phrase "Tell me, is it all right with crops," and the prediction "Humanity in the *Iron* age shall subsist upon corn," are the lipsayings of the present generation. While on this subject, it is due

to the British Government to refer to the recognition, that, from the out-set of their rule, has been accorded to the manifold and solid yield which we owe to the bounty of providence. The late crisis, thank Heaven, has evoked much of fellow-feeling and active sympathy from the noble Statesman Lord Cranborne, His Excellency the Viceroy, at whose motion and under whose kind patronage, this meeting has been summoned ;—in short, every member of the State, throughout the length and breadth of the land ; a charitable course has been pursued with tangible results. However, the misfortunes which diffused over some portion of India, like their forerunners in every age and clime, have paralyzed unbounded philanthropy, and outstripped the kindliest intentions on the part of our paternal Rulers. We should now strain every nerve to extend the circle of relief beyond old patriarchal and family bounds, in order to embrace the actual amount of destitution before us. Let me appeal to my fellow countrymen, in the words of our venerable *Menu*, *Vittri*, and *Guroora* :—" If he meet with fit objects of benevolence, let him constantly bestow gifts on them, to the best of his powers, and with a cheerful heart." " He who feeds the paupers with rice during famine, and bestows gold in times of plenty, and provides water in a desert, secures felicity in future life.' " He who dispenses not rice during famine commits a sin of the deepest dye. I might as well quote the Mahomedan authority ; "Do good to others as God hath done unto thee ;" and the following distich from the celebrated *Sadi* :—"What Alchemy is to copper, charity is to human error—charity is anodyne to pains.' (*Loud cheers*).

The Rev. Mr. Bromehead seconded the resolution. He said that he could not do better than commence by

quoting a few words that fell from the proposer, but which, he was afraid, were not heard all over the room, as they certainly deserved to be:—"Do good to others, as God hath done to you". The orphans were God's children, as was told them by their own sacred books. With regard to the question as to how to carry out the best plan of continuing subscriptions, if they were to go to Orissa, he was afraid it might be lost sight of, and every one knew the old saying, "out of sight, out of mind." But, if they were to amalgamate the two funds and to maintain the Calcutta Orphans and the Orissa Orphans out of one fund, then there was a prospect of being able to keep continued subscriptions. The Clergy would be able to go round the orphan districts, and tell their people what they had seen, and what was going on at their doors. That was the way to collect subscriptions, and keep them up. Every one would be most thankful to the Almighty when this scourge was removed, and at an end, and he wished to say that the other charities in Calcutta had suffered in consequence. The District Charitable Society and others had suffered most materially. He would be very thankful if they could now, with one burst of sympathy, as it were, wash their hands of these poor ones, and leave the future to the Government. He could not say whether this was possible, but he sincerely hoped it. It was not for him to go into the question as to how the children were to be educated, —whether as Mussulmans, Hindoos, or Christians. That was not the point. The point was this: "Here are 1,500 starving children;—Feed them" (*loud applause*). If they kept to that text they could not go wrong. The other point would right itself as time went on. When united together in one noble cause, a great deal of sympathy in com-

mon, was found in Mussulman, Hindoo, and Christian alike. Let them do this, and hope that it would please Almighty God out of this sorrowful famine to bring forth plenty; out of this frightful pestilence to bring health and beauty. It was well known that the fertility of the district of Orissa had gained for it the name of the "Garden of India." Who knew but that in future years, this famine might not turn out to have been a great blessing to the country. It was well known that where there had been most devastation there was there the most beauty. Many of those present doubtless had been in Italy, and had seen the Bay of Naples, and the glorious scenery at the foot of Vesuvius; this had arisen from the various explosions and devastations which the mountain had poured on to the plain underneath. So, also, might this famine with its fiery breath, through God's mercy, bring forth good fruit in abundance, *(Applause)*.

BABOO KISSORY CHAND MITTRA supported the resolution. He spoke to the following effect:—"As one who has watched the progress of the Famine, and bestowed some thought on the measures calculated to mitigate its pressure, I should wish to accord my humble support to the resolution which has just been moved and recorded. I regard this gathering as a cheering illustration of the sympathy of our British fellow-subjects with our famine-stricken countrymen. It would afford conclusive and additional proof, if such proof were needed, of the fact, that beneath the reserve and taciturnity, the severity and solidity, of the English character, there underlies a rich and inexhaustable vein of generosity and kindliness, fettered by no distinctions of creed, or caste or color *(Cheers)*. The Englishman is certainly not a demonstrative being, but he is

essentially a benevolent one, and his benevolence, I feel assured, will, on the present occasion, be heartily seconded and supplemented by the benevolence of the Natives. The darkest cloud has its silver lining and this famine will not have proved an unmixed evil if it serves to bring the dominant few, nearer to the subject many, and to cement their bonds of amity. I conclude, it is the duty of every enlightened Native to lend his cordial co-operation to the accomplishment of the object of this meeting. Charity is of all nations, and of all creeds. To feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, and to father the fatherless, is inculcated as an incumbent duty—a cardinal virtue—in the Bible, the Koran, and the Shastras. These may be platitudes, but the truths embodied in them can never be listened to without interest, or recalled to our mind too often. I now see before me the representatives of different sections of the Native community. I know, my fellow-countrymen, you are deeply impressed with the importance of the work which has been laid before you with consummate ability and eloquence by the Viceroy, and Mr. Maine. I consider it superfluous to urge you to contribute out of your substance to its furtherance. I need not say much in the way of reminding you of the true use of prosperity. It is not to carry on endless litigation, or gratify aimless ostentation. It is not to minister to self-indulgence. It is not to fritter away thousands in *nautches* and *jatras*, marriages, and *shrads*. It is not to widen the space between the rich and the poor. But, I conceive the true use of wealth is to consecrate your resources to the great work of organised and discriminating charity. It is to bridge the gulf between the prosperous and the less prosperous. It is to render you the delegates of Divine benevolence. *(Cheers)*.

There are those, Sir, among us who are inoculated with these sentiments. I hold in my hand a letter from the Maharajah Anund Nauth Roy Bahadoor, the lineal descendant of the illustrious Ranee Bhobanee, which is as follows:—"Referring to the requisition for the public meeting, to be held on the 12th instant, I beg you will kindly assure the meeting of my cordial sympathy with its object, and of my readiness to contribute my mite towards the furtherance of the same. I request you will be so good as to put my name down on the present occasion as a contributor for Rs. 1,000 and a monthly subscriber for Rs. 50." I hope and believe that the enlightened liberality evinced by the writer of this letter may be emulated by other opulent and influential Native gentlemen (*Loud cheers.*)

BABOO DEGUMBER MITTER stated that he hoped it would not be shown that when 2,000 orphans were supplicating before them, it could be said that the little children had cried in vain. The spirits of twenty lacs of human beings called upon them to support the orphans. The Baboo concluded his remarks by quoting the saying—"Let no man call on God in his heart, who calls not man his brother." (*Loud applause.*)

THE HON. MR. SETON-KARR, in moving the third resolution, said:—"Your Excellency, Ladies, and Gentlemen: I may be permitted to express the satisfaction which I feel at being entrusted with one of the resolutions to be passed this evening, and I feel this satisfaction in spite of the mournful reflections excited by a calamity which, though great, I will not term unparalleled. I say that I will not call it unparalleled because everything in India is on such a gigantic scale. The face of nature is more vast and

diversified, she is more fertile in her resources, more beautiful in her productions, and far grander in her operations, than is the case in those temperate climes with which we are familiar in Europe. But this amplitude, excess, and vastness of proportion though unquestionably the source of great blessing when the seasons keep their appointed harmony and order, become only the means of intensifying calamity, when, as in the seasons of 1865, the earth has been of iron, and the heavens have been of brass. At such and similar times, the disasters to which famine or inundation give rise, are aggravated, intensified and prolonged, by the vast areas which they affect; areas as large as European kingdoms; by the obstacles, to transit, by the difficulties of communication, by the simple habits of the people, by their incapacity readily to resort to new modes of employment, and even by their very virtues, their stoical fortitude, and their patient endurance, which lead them to look on in silence while their little hoards are passing away before their eyes, and then bow to them in submission before the stroke of Fate. At such season the liberality of Calcutta has been constantly invoked, and never invoked in vain, whether the call has been made to succour the orphan, to relieve the widow, or to stem the tide of one of those tremendous visitations, which turn cornfields into jungles, and convert happy homesteads and populous villages into abodes of scarcity, of desolation, of disease, and of death; and if, during the past year in Calcutta, alms could not be disbursed unseen; if men could not do good by stealth, and then blush to find it fame; if our liberality was practised in an open, not to say unostentatious manner, this was simply because, at a time when our homes and streets were beleaguered by the indigent and the dying,

such an avowed display of munificence was imposed on the inhabitants by the sheer necessities of the case. *(applause).* A second appeal is now become inevitable, and you have heard the reasons for this call forcibly and clearly expounded by His Excellency the Viceroy, as well as by the preceding speakers, and I feel certain that these reasons are backed by statistics wholly unassailable, and by facts and circumstances which cannot lie. Indeed, we seem now to have reached a point, at which, in order to cope with the disaster, we shall require all the active philanthropy of individuals, all the self-reliance of the middle classes of natives, and all the collective energies of the State. That the State will do its duty at this crisis I have no sort of doubt, and as an auxiliary to Government, the assistance is now invoked of a community, distinguished for liberality of sentiment, and for enlightened views. I will not attempt to work on your feelings by giving you any of the details of a famine, which you are perfectly able to collect for yourselves from public and private sources alike. But this I will say, that if this state of things is not to continue; if this visitation is not to have a deeper impress, and a more permanent hold in the country than it has done hitherto; if there are scores and hundreds of orphans to be relieved, to be educated, and to be brought up as useful and intelligent members of society; if we are not content to witness the establishment of a scheme which in the pregnant and condensed language of the great Roman historian, we may call by the name of peace; if the loyal, contented, and industrious agriculturists of a vast and not unfertile province are again to be gladdened by the return of oxen to the fold, of plenty to the garner, and of peace to the hearth—if there is any truth and any justice in the

maxims of those political economists, who justify, by the liberal use thereof, the accumulation of capital, and the unequal distribution of wealth—all, Europeans and Natives, officials and non-officials, ought to feel a mutual and a lively satisfaction at the prospect of harmonious co-operation for those philanthropic objects, over which neither sectarian jealousy, nor rivalry of interests, nor diversity of claims, nor antagonism of race, ought for one moment to be permitted to cast a shade—and, finally, if men in affluent, easy, and independent circumstances, are found, as we are told, absolutely to rejoice even in the midst of calamity, when Providence vouchsafes to them the opportunity of giving a direct and a practical turn to those sacred maxims of charity and benevolence, which are recommended by the religions of Hindu, of Mahomedan, and of Christian alike, then for such just reflections, for such hearty sympathies, and for such active benevolence, the present is the occasion, and this is the time I feel that I can appeal with some confidence to those who, at the seat of Government are discharging high and important functions of an executive, judicial, or legislative character, whose advocacy or whose presence this evening is an earnest of the heartiness with which they enter into the cause; to other officials entrusted with the complex and intricate details of civil administration in the interior, whose tents in the past or in any previous season have been pitched in close proximity to those scenes of suffering and sorrow, and who are well aware that their title to credit and distinction must rest fully as much on the contentment and well-being of the people as it ever can do on the confidence and the approval of the Government. I can appeal, I think, to the fair members of that sex, whose sympathies are even more ready than our own at

all tales of human affliction; (*Cheers*) the sex which appears amongst us, only to elevate, to refine, and to purify that society of which it forms so conspicuous an element, and in which it plays so important a part; to the members of that high-minded, independent, and learned profession, who are never slow to give back to the cause of public charity some portion of those earnings, which have been freely accorded to their knowledge of jurisprudence and to their skill in forensic debate; to the Native landholder and to the Native merchant, by whom, according to their early traditions and their early legislation, agriculture has ever been esteemed an honorable profession, and whose spontaneous liberality at other times has waited for no countenance at the hand of Europeans, and has sought no aid from reflection, from memory, or from reason; and, lastly, I appeal to the British merchant princes of Calcutta, whose munificence has almost passed into a proverb, to whose energies there is scarcely a tract or a climate in the Indian Empire, that does not, in some measure bear witness, and who must be deeply impressed with the conviction that the welfare, the progress, and the prosperity of the British Government are as closely connected with a healthy, and well-developed agricultural system, as they must be based on unimpeachable credit and on genuine mercantile success. (*continued cheers*). I trust, therefore, that this meeting, so numerously attended, representing all classes and opinions of the community, and presided over by the experienced statesman, who has already once saved the country in war, and who seems equally fitted to guide the vessel of the State through those perils and complications which may arise even in times of the profoundest peace—I say, I trust that this meeting will pass resolutions which may

terminate in measures of that practical sagacity without which philanthropy is aimless, and benevolence is vain—measures which shall prove that this city bases its title to pre-eminence as much on intelligent public spirit and genuine liberality as it does on the material display and the outward evidences of civilization, of industry, of trade, and of wealth, and I will in conclusion, simply remind those who are disposed to give according to the extent of their means and opportunities, that in all human probability, they will be blessed by the consciousness that they have induced others elsewhere to follow so good an example, that in the minds of the peasantry they have substitued cheerfulness for despondency, and hope for despair, and that, as unseen and distant benefactors, they have personally subtracted several units from the great aggregate of human suffering and woe. (*Loud applause.*)

Baboo Kristo Dass Pal, in seconding the resolution, spoke as follows:—"I have been asked to second the resolution which has been just moved so ably and eloquently by the honorable and learned gentleman, and I do so with great pleasure. The eloquent addresses which you have heard this evening have laid before you a sad—indeed, a very sad, picture of the emergency which is still impending over Orissa. In the annals of India there is not another instance in which distress was prolonged for so long a period over so large an area as in the present case of Orissa, The calamity which the drought of 1865 brought forth has been continued in some places with redoubled vigor by the inundations of 1866. I am one of those who think with Lord Cranborne that a national calamity should be met by the national exchequer, and in obedience to that principle, the Government has been making preparations on a truly

imperial scale for the mitigation of suffering in the afflicted districts. Yet there is enough room from private charity. State aid need not supersede private benevolences. It is a divine principle implanted in the human breast which prompts man to alleviate the misery of his fellow creatures The Indian community has never been backward in seconding movements for helping the needy and feeding the starving. Only the other day we had a beautiful illustration of this generous trait in the character of the Indian public, in the noble response it made to the call for the relief of the sufferers by the Famine in Bengal as well as in Orissa. I hold a paper in my hands, which has been kindly furnished to me by Mr. Wood, the able and obliging Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce. I find in it that the total amount of subscriptions to the late Famine Fund was Rs 6,00,230, of which Bombay, always in the van of charitable movements, contributed Rs. 2,01,890, Punjaub Rs. 16,615 N. W. P. Rs. 70,257. Oudh, Rs. 10,764. Bengal (Mofussil) Rs. 32,573, exclusive of course of the contributions which the several local Committees, raised for local relief, Central Provinces Rs 4,073, Rangoon Rs. 7,033, and Calcutta and its environs Rs. 1,57,025. These figures proclaim with an irresistable eloquence the charity of the Indian public. It might be doubted whether in the face of these liberal contributions the community of India would feel disposed to come forward again. I for one do not share in this doubt. (*Applause*). I cannot believe that six lacs of rupees represent the sum total of Indian charity available for the terrible and indeed unprecedented calamity, which lately swept over the Bengal Provinces, and which still lingers in such frightful proportions in the districts of Orissa. There is one class of the Indian community particularly to whom I am sure an ap-

peal when made, will not be made in vain, I allude to the Native Princes. Themselves rulers of states, and possessors of large revenues; many of them noted for hereditary liberality, they will not certainly be wanting in sympathy for the suffering subjects of the British Crown, who again are related to them by ties of blood and race. A word from the Foreign Secretary is sure to evoke among them a spirit of noble emulation for charity. And lastly, ladies and gentlemen, I request you to remember one thing. Allusion has been made this evening to the telegram which His Excellency the Governor General has received from the Secretary of State, intimating that subscriptions could not be looked for from England. We must all deeply regret the cause which has led to this disheartening message, for this is the first instance of England's refusing aid to India at a time of distress. It was only the other day she came so nobly to the help of Quebec, and I feel assured that unless the pressure had been very great,she would not have rejected the present application of India, one of the main pillars of her greatness (*cheers*). Let us, however, hope that the pressure may not continue long, and that we may soon have the benefit of her open-handed assistance. But Lord Cranborne's message teaches us one lesson, we must learn to rely on ourselves. May all of us in this country, governors and governed, Europeans and Natives, Princes and people, make a common effort and show by an unanimous vote that India is able to depend upon her own resources. (*Applause.*)

Mr. Scott Moncrieff in proposing the next resolution said :—I rise to submit a resolution not in the programme, but which will nevertheless commend itself, I feel certain, to the cordial support of this meeting. I am confident, moreover, not only that no surprise will be

felt here that it is brought forward, but that very great surprise will be felt by the public, shou'd the proceedings of this meeting terminate without some such resolution, as I have to propose, forming a part of them. When the public were invited by Goverement, as it were, to attend this meeting, we were told that a telegram had been sent to the Secretary of State, begging him to invite the people of England to raise funds for the relief of the famishing in Orissa; and I appeal to this meeting, if the public would have responded so readily as they seem willing to do, to the invitation from Government to come forward with their assistance, had we not felt confident that the appeal to England for help would have met with a very different response from that conveyed in the Secretary of State's telegram (*Hear, hear*). I can scarcely express the surprise and disappointment caused by that telegram the curtness of which we feel to have been most unworthy of the subject of it. (*Hear, hear.*) In the midst of the most terrible famine which has probably ever swept over India, we appeal to England for help; and as the last speaker has so well expressed it, we appeal for the first time to England, in vain. But if, as the Baboo says, the Secretary of State's refusal to assist us, teaches us one lesson, that we must depend upon ourselves, I feel that it teaches us another that—if we wish assistance from England, we must seek it through some other channel than his Lordship. He has persistently refused to help us in this matter, and in answer to our latest appeal, he has shut the door in our faces with a bang. (*Hear, hear, and laughter*). But his answer was not the answer of the English people; and I know well that this great need has only to be brought before them fairly, to ensure liberal contributions from them. To show you the grounds on which this confidence rests, allow me to refer to the different

meetings held at the Mansion House in London, for consideration of what should be done in regard to the famine in India, as I find them reported in the *Home News*. On the 24th September, the matter was first brought forward at the close of a meeting of the Cholera Committee, when those present assured the Lord Mayor of their readiness to co-operate with him, in raising a public subscription, if necessary. On the 28th September, a very influential deputation waited on his Lordship for consideration of the Indian Famine question; he told them that he had been frequently solicited to take the matter up, but that he was assured by the Secretary of State that orders had been sent to the Government of India to do everything necessary for the relief of the famine-stricken. Mr. John Abel Smith warned the Lord Mayor that, if the Secretary of State dissuaded him from joining in the measures which had been proposed in the City of London for sending relief to the famine-stricken in India, the greater responsibility would be thrown upon Government. The Lord Mayor said that the impression left upon his mind, after his interview with Lord Cranborne, was that there was no necessity for the public to take any steps in the matter. Mr. Kirkman Hodgson said, we ought to tell Lord Cranborne that the "the commerce of London is prepared to do what is right and proper on this occasion"—words worthy of British commerce and of a British merchant. (*cheers.*) He said further, "I would ask this question,—'Did Lord Cranborne think it right and proper that the merchants in London connected with the India trade should supplement what Government was doing?' I shall be content with his answer." On the 12th October, another meeting was held at the Mansion House, summoned by the Lord Mayor, for consideration of a telegram received by him from Mr. Stuart Hogg, Chairman

of the Famine Fund Committee here, containing an urgent appeal for help. The Lord Mayor reported having had another interview with the Secretary of State, who had assured him again that Government was prepared to do all that was necessary, and that he did not think an appeal to the public desirable. Once again, on the 22nd October, a number of gentlemen waited on the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House to see if their assistance was required in raising a public subscription. Mr. Magniac stated that he had been besieged with offers of money for India, and he, with others, were quite ready to bring the matter before the public if required. Again his Lordship assured them that the Secretary of State did not think it necessary to appeal to the public, and the meeting separated, after a promise from the Lord Mayor, in answer to a question from Mr. Dudley R. Smith, that if he saw reason to change his mind as to the desirableness of a public meeting, he would let them know. We find, then, that while assistance has been repeatedly offered by the merchants in London, it has been persistently refused by the Secretary of State. The former cannot be surprised, therefore, if they find us now invoking their aid. We throw ourselves with entire confidence on their liberality, perfectly certain that we shall not appeal to them in vain, *(hearty applause)* that the English public have only to hear of the calamity which brings us together this evening, to respond cordially to our cry for assistance. And what a terrible tale we have to tell them—of a district as large as Yorkshire, where there are half-a million of men, women and children to whom the land refuses food, who must be supported for the next nine months on charity, or die. We have already ourselves helped these people largely; we are doing so again, but are we to do so alone? We cry to the

people of England to stand by us with liberal support. *(Hear, hear).* But how is our cry ever to reach the people of England. It is vain to expect that the Secretary of State will move a finger in this matter, and we mean to show his Lordship that we can do without his assistance. We are determined that our appeal shall reach the public at home, and as the best way of bringing it before them, we mean to follow the example of Mr. John Bull himself when he has a grumble to be relieved of. He writes to the *Times* whether he has been shaken out of his dreams by an earthquake, or rolled over a railway embankment, or cheated in cashing Bank of England notes in France, or insulted in a German railway,— whatever it be, he writes to the *Times (much laughter);* he cannot help it, and merely follows his natural instincts in doing so. Absurd as this may seem, it is amazing what results are produced very often by a letter to the *Times*,—that grand condensor of English grumble *(laughter)*, and more especially in cases where charity is called for. Now we mean to write to the *Times*; if the Editor gives us no more than room for one advertisment, the cost will be amply repaid; if he gives us one hearty editorial, it will be worth five lakhs of rupees to Orissa, and I think I see honest John Bull sitting at his breakfast table, so amply spread, by a bright fire, when the *Times* is put into his hands, and looking over its fresh pages, his eye falls on a column headed India, containing an account perhaps of the meeting here this evening. How his face glows as he reads the terrible accounts of the distress in Orissa, till he starts from his seat saying how's this, what's this, half-a-million men, women, and children without food, to be supported for nine months; bless my soul; two thousand orphans too, how dreadful; why did they never tell me of this

before, and who had the brass to say that I would not send them help; how much do you want. John will say ten thousand, twenty thousand, fifty thousand pounds, take it, man, and then tell me if you want more, (*continued laughter).* If that is not the spirit in which the people of England will receive our appeal, then we have very greatly misunderstood the temper and professions of those gentlemen who so frequently, at the Mansion House, offered assistance for the famishing in this country. We will write to the *Times* (*Hear, hear*). My resolution is as follows:—" That this meeting urgently invokes the assistance of the people of England towards the support of the sufferers by the famine in Orissa, and that the Editor of the *Times* be respectfully solicited to draw public attention to this appeal in the columns of that newspaper, with a view to the formation of a Committee in London, for the purpose of collecting contributions and forwarding them to this country."

Mr. Skinner seconded the resolution, and stated that he was quite confident that the scheme would meet with a liberal response from England. Although fresh calls had arisen there, that would divert into other channels much of that fund that was always stored up for the relief of those in affliction, yet an appeal for aid was never known to fail where it was shown it was really needed *(cheers.)* The cause did not require any special advocacy from him. Such gatherings as the present were rare to see, where the rulers of the land and the people were met together with one common accord; and the value of such meetings could not be overstated. (*Applause*).

The last resolution was moved by Brigadier General

Welchman as follows :—" That the following Gentlemen be named a General Committee for the purpose of carrying out the desired object, with power to appoint from among their number an Executive Committee of five, of whom two shall be Government officials :—

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, Hon'ble H. S. Maine, Hon'ble W. Grey, Hon'ble J. P. Norman, Hon'ble W. S. Seton-Karr, Hon'ble D. Cowie, A. T. T. Peterson, Esq, V. H. Schalch, Esq., Brigadier General Welchman, Brigadier Fitzmeyer, Stuart Hogg, Esq., F. Schiller, Esq., R. S. Moncrieff, Esq., G. Dickson, Esq., Captain G. R. Fenwick, Rev. W. C. Bromehead, Rev. E. H. Blyth, Dr Fayrer, J. B. Knight, Esq., J. Remfry, Esq., Rajah Kalikrishna Bahadoor, Moonshee Ameer Ali Khan Bahadoor, Baboo Romanath Tagore, Khajah Abdool Gunny, Cowar Suttyanund Ghosal, Baboo Ramgopaul Ghose, and the Advocate General.

THE HON. T. H. COWIE, in seconding the resolution, stated that he thought this last resolution was one of the most important of all, for now the names of those gentlemen were before the meeting who were to carry out the resolutions that had been just passed, or in plain words, to put the screw on. The Committee had been selected so as to represent, so far as Calcutta was concerned, all classes of the community, and he hoped that the efforts of the Committee here would be well seconded by the Local Committees all over the country. He was glad to hear the resolution for an appeal to England. As for himself, he had no doubt that their countrymen in England would respond to it with liberality. Whatever distress might exist at home, their purses would be open as freely now for the frightful

distress here, as they would have been under more favorable circumstances They had met here to-night for the purpose of assisting and supplementing the efforts of the Government. The statistics of the distress, as published in the papers, fully showed the horrors of the situation. What they had met for was for a plain and simple duty for the relief of those who, in the sight of God, were of the same blood as ourselves, and who were destitute and orphans. What he wished was that this whole meeting might be formed into a working committee for the purpose of obtaining subscriptions. He had no doubt that if every one exerted himself, they would have no difficulty in raising the necessary funds. (*Cheers.*)

His Excellency the Viceroy stated, that he was most satisfactorily assured of the success of the meeting, which he hoped would reverberate throughout the whole land, to the profit and advantage of the object in view. As a proof of this he was most happy to tell them that the meeting had already borne its first fruits, for eight of the leading firms of Calcutta had already put down their names for Rs. 2,500 each, (*Hear, hear*) and as he wished to follow so good and example, he would contribute Rs. 10,000 towards the fund (*Loud applause*)

The meeting then terminated, after a vote of thanks to His Excellency for presiding had been carried.

We understand that a letter was received by the Sheriff from Baboo Romanauth Tagore, expressing his regret that owing to sudden indisposition, he was unable to attend, and take charge of the resolution he had been entrusted with, but assuring him that his sympathies were entirely with the object of the meeting.

MEETING OF THE RELIEF COMMITTEE AT THE TOWN HALL.

The Famine in Orissa.

February 15, 1867.—Present :—Sir C. Beadon, General Welchman, the Hon. D. Cowie, the Advocate General, Messrs. Schiller, Schalch, Geo. Dickson, Hogg, J. B. Roberts, Remfry, Dr. Fayrer, Rev. Mr. Bromehead, Romanauth Tagore, Degumber Mitter, Cowar Harendro Krishna Bahadoor, &c., &c.

The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal having taken the Chair, it was moved and carried that C. P. Hobhouse, Esq., H. W. I. Wood, Esq., and Cowar Harendro Krishna Bahadoor, be added as Members of the General Committee, and that Mr. Wood be, with his consent, appointed Honorary Secretary.

The Chairman then proceeded to read the following minute by Mr. Schalch :—

Minute by Junior Member, Board of Revenue, in charge of Imports and Relief Operations in Orissa.

1. It would seem from the letter of the Commisssoner of Cuttack, No. 1669 of 1st instant, that relief must be carried out on a very more extensive scale and on a different principle from that adopted during the past year. During that period nothing but a system of relief at central localities could be adopted, owing partly to the immediate pressure which prevented more extensive arrangements being effected, and to the difficulty of procuring grain for distribution. It is certain that the system of relief centres, while open to the very grave objections which are men-

tioned by the Assistant Collector of Kendrapaiah, does not afford the requisite means of assisting a very large portion of the population, who, rightly or wrongly, prefer death to resort to those centres, and that if efficient aid is to be given to the residents of the suffering tracts, some system must be devised whereby the co-operation of the zemindars can be obtained, and some method of parish relief rendered possible.

2. Undoubtedly any such system will require the most careful supervision to prevent excessive abuse of the assistance afforded, and, even with such careful supervision, much abuse of the privileges granted must be submitted to.

3. It is to be feared that the area in which some such system must be introduced will extend, month by month, until it embraces nearly the whole, if not the whole, of the tract of country extending from North of the Dhamra River, in the Balasore District, to the Southern extremity of the Chilka Lake; and it therefore becomes necessary for those who will have the control of all relief measures to give the subject the more careful consideration and not to be content with petty measures to meet isolated instances of distress, but to lay down some broad principle of action on which relief, ample yet as economical as circumstances can allow, should be administered.

4. I believe that the duties connected with the administration of this relief will require, and will fully occupy, the best energies of a Department distinct from that of the Board of Revenue.

5. It is probable that any General Committee, which may be appointed in accordance with the resolutions to be moved at the Famine Meeting which is to be held to-

morrow will desire to undertake the duty, not merely of collecting subscriptions towards the expenditure consequent on the distress in Orissa, but also of seeing that efficient measures are adopted to mitigate the distress ; but in undertaking the duty of watching these measures, they must be prepared to accept the whole responsibility, in connection with Government, attaching to these relief operations.

6. The General Committee, it is understood, will probably work through an Executive Committee composed of two official and two non-official members, one of whom they will nominate as Chairman.

7. Supposing this course to be followed, I venture to throw out thefollowing suggestions as to the agency and the mode in which relief operations should be carried out.

8. All such operations should be placed under the sole control of the Calcutta Committee, whose Chairman should correspond direct with the Government of Bengal.

9. At the disposal of the Committee should be placed the services of a competent official, who should be deputed to Orissa, and there hold the same position in regard to the relief operations that the Special Collector holds with regard to Government import operations ; the connection of the latter with the relief operations ceasing, and his time and attention being entirely given up to import operations.

10. The Chief Relief Officer, who might be termed Famine Commissioner, would have at his disposal the services of the three Government Officers who are now employed, one in each of the three Districts of Orissa. He would be the channel of communication between the Cal-

cutta Famine Committee and the local Relief Committees, and would carry out such measures of relief as might be determined by the former in communication with the latter Committee and with the Government.

11. It would not, I think, be necessary to place the Famine Commissioner in subordination to the Revenue Commissioner of the District. The latter will have very heavy calls on his time with regard to subjects in connection with the remission of Government Revenue, the extension of the existing settlement, and the importation, distribution, and sale of grain, conveyed into the Province on Government account; and these duties will, in addition to those which ordinarily devolve on the Commissioner of a District, fully occupy his time.

12. I am certain from my knowledge of the officials now in Cuttack that the Famine Commissioner will receive from all the most cordial co-operation towards the efficient execution of the measures for relief that may be adopted, and will not require, by being made subordinate to the Commissioner, that Officer's official support to ensure such co-operation; but to give him due weight with the Zemindars and others with whom he may be brought into communication, he should, I think, be specially vested with the powers of a Commissioner.

13. This is the agency which I suggest should be adopted.

14. With regard to the measures to be adopted for efficient relief, I would sketch out the following, dividing the duties to be performed into 1*st.*—those which rest with the Government solely; and 2*nd*, those which rest

with the General Relief Committee in communication with the Government and the local Committees.

15. The Government should be responsible for—

1*st.* Importing a sufficiency of grain, so far as may be practicable, for sale at a fixed rate for cash to all purchasers, and to the Relief Committee for gratuitous distribution, and for sale, in certain cases and under certain conditions, at rates lower than the Government price.

2*nd.* Carrying out such a system of Public Works as shall, in connection with the import operations, and with the operation of the East India Irrigation Company, afford ample and general occupation throughout the suffering localities.

3*rd.* Distributing, at cost prices, seed grain to Zemindars and others who may be ascertained to be unable to provide themselves, on certain conditions as to payment.

4*th.* Advancing to Zemindars for the execution of works, such as digging tanks, &c., &c., for the improvement of their estates, of the principle of Tuccavee advances, in localities where there may be no demand for labor.

16. It has been remarked by the Assistant Collector of Kendraparah that the wages now given for labor on Public Works are not sufficient to purchase, at the existing high price of grain, food for the family of the laborer. The fact is that, while prices of food have permanently risen, wages have not gone up with equal rapidity. That this is the case is undoubted, and Government should, I think, take the initiative in restoring the equilibrium between the two, and should direct the Department Public Works to raise the rate for labor, so that a fair day's labor may earn a fair day's wages, regard being had to the existing price of food.

17. Of the measures above recommended to be undertaken by Government, that for the importation of grain is in active progress, and much, if not all, that will be necessary has been determined in regard to the Public Works of the Province.

18. But the two measures last proposed have not yet been taken into consideration.

19. I believe that the supply of seed will become a necessity; while the last measure proposed will undoubtedly tend to reduce the number of destitute, who will otherwise come on the gratuitous distribution fund; and if such be the result, the measure will certainly prove economical in the end.

20. Should Government approve of these suggestions, they could be carried out by the Commissioner under the same control as are the import operations, in accordance with instructions which can be drawn up for the approval of Government.

21. There remain for consideration the measures to be adopted by the General Relief Committee for the gratuitous distribution of grain; for its sale at rates lower than Government rates, where such sale may be deemed expedient; for the employment of women, either temporarily or permanently deserted by their husbands, and of others unable to find employment in Public Works.

22. If the measures which, as suggested, devolve on Government be fully carried out, it is probable that by the means thus afforded the mass of the population of earning their own livelihood, the labours of the Relief Committee will be considerably lessened; but it is certain that much will in any case remain for them to do.

23. It would be out of place here to determine in detail the measures which the Relief Committee should adopt, but I may be pardoned if I venture, on the experience we have obtained in conducting relief operations, to indicate roughly the direction which relief measures might take.

24. The operations of the Committee would consist of—

1*st*. The purchase from Government import and store depôts of grain required by them, at the price which may from time to time be fixed by Government for sale to the community generally.

2*nd*. Its transport and storage at relief depôts placed at convenient distances for the supply of the distressed tracts.

3*rd*. Its gratuitous distribution to those unable to labor, under proper safeguards against the abuse of the gift.

4*th*. Its sale at prices below that fixed by Government, under similar safeguards, to persons incapable of paying the full value, but still able to pay something for their food.

5*th*. The support of those who it may be deemed inexpedient to collect at relief centres. This measure would probably have to be carried out village by village, with the assistance and aid of the Zemindars or chief responsible man of the village.

25. In carrying out these operations, the Calcutta Executive Committee would have the assistance of the staff I have proposed in paragraphs 9 and 10, and the aid and advice of the District Relief Committees, and it might be necessary to organize some subordinate paid agency, and to seek assistance, in the way of advice and supervision, from Sub-divisional Relief Committees working with the Sub-divisional Officer.

26. It may be that relief measures to the full extent herein proposed may not be required throughout the entire area where the crops have failed, but preparation should, I think, be made to meet such a contingency by laying down the principles on which such measures should be conducted, for determining the agency to whom their execution should be entrusted, and by defining the duties and responsibility which will devolve on such agency.

V. H. SCHALCH.

The 12th February, 1867.

Proposed by the Advocate General and seconded by the Hon. Mr. Justice Norman that the following gentlemen be nominated as an Executive Committee :—

Mr. Hobhouse, Chairman; Mr. Schalch, Mr. Moncrieff, Captain Fenwick, and Baboo Degumber Mitter.

Proposed by the Hon. D. Cowie and seconded by Baboo Romanath Tagore :—

That the Executive Committee be vested with full powers for the collection and application of all subscriptions, reporting their proceedings once a fortnight to the General Committee.

The Chairman having read a letter from Madame Anna Bishop Schultz expressing her readiness to give a concert in aid of the Fund :—

Proposed by the Advocate General and seconded by Mr. Schalch :—

That the Committee accept with thanks the liberal offer of Madame Bishop.

The Meeting separated after a vote of thanks to the chair.

At a Meeting of the Orissa Famine and Orphan Relief Committee, held at the Town Hall on Friday, the 15th February, a Minute, of date 12th idem, drawn up by Mr. Schalch, Junior Member of the Board of Revenue, was accepted as the basis of arrangement on which the Government of Bengal and the above Committee were to work together for the relief of the famine-stricken, and of Orphans in the Province of Orissa; and the following gentlemen were elected as an Executive Committee to carry out the above arrangements, *viz* :—

The Hon'ble C. P. Hobhouse, ... *Chairman.*
V. H. Schalch, Esq.,
Captain G. R. Fenwick,
R. Scott Moncrieff, Esq.,
Baboo Degumbur Mitter, } *Members.*
H. W. I. Wood, Esq., ... *Honorary Secretary.*

Before proceeding to work, the Executive Committee consider it advisable to lay down in distinct and concise terms the exact relationship which they understand the Relief Committee to hold, as well with the Government of Bengal as with the public, and the exact duties and responsibilities which are undertaken by the Government and by the Committee respectively.

1*st*.—The tract of country, in which there has arisen special cause for relief operations in the late inundations, includes more or less all those parts of Orissa between the River Dhamra in Balasore north, to the southern extremity of the Chilka Lake; but we understand that such operations will be required more or less throughout the whole Province of Orissa, and especially in the Sub-division of Bhuddruck, as regards the district of Balasore.

2nd.—An Officer of Government to be styled the Famine Commissioner, and three other Officers of Government, *viz.*, one in the district of Cuttack, another in the district of Pooree, and a third in the district of Balasore, are to be placed exclusively under the orders of the Executive Committee; and the Commissioner and District Officers of the Province of Orissa, though not in any degree to be subordinate to the Committee, are yet to be instructed to give all the aid they can to the Committee and the persons employed by them.

3rd.—The Executive Committee are to carry on their operations in communication with Local Committees, and with the Government.

4th.—The duties and responsibilities of the Government are—

1st.—The import of a sufficiency of grain, so far as may be practicable, for sale at a fixed price, Rs. 3-4 per maund, to all purchasers, and to the Relief Committee.

2nd.—The carrying out, in co-operation with the East India Irrigation Company, a system of public works in suffering localities, sufficient to afford ample and general occupation.

3rd.—The distribution of seed grain to Zemindars and others, under certain circumstances, and on certain conditions; and

4th.—The making of advances to Zemindars in certain localities, for the execution of works of improvement on their estates.

5th.—The duties and responsibilities of the Committee are—

1st.—To purchase grain at the Government depôts at the price fixed.

2nd.—To transport and store such grain at relief depôts placed conveniently for the supply of the distressed tracts.

3rd.—To distribute food gratuitously, under proper safeguard against abuse, to those unable to labor.

4th.—To sell food at a price below the fixed price, to persons unable to pay the full value.

5th.—To support those whom it may be inconvenient to collect at relief centres.

These, broadly stated, seem to the Executive Committee to be the duties, which, in joint responsibility with the Government of Bengal, the Relief Committee have undertaken.

As a first step towards the fulfilment of these duties, the Committee have accepted the services of Mr. Wood, who has taken upon himself the arduous duties, which he has repeatedly performed in similar cases with so much zeal and ability, of Honorary Treasurer, and of collecting subscriptions; and, as the Committee is under the impression that a great deal of business must necessarily be entailed on them, which no one of their members will have the leisure to perform thoroughly, they have also accepted the services of Mr Shekleton to act as Honorary Secretary.

The Committee have now to acknowledge receipt of the letter No. 633, 15th instant, from the Junior Secretary to Government of Bengal, and its enclosures, and to remark thereon as follows:—

It would seem from these and other papers before the

MR. SHEKLETON was appointed by the Government of Bengal—7th May 1867—Secretary to the Executive Famine Relief Committee.

Committee that the following so-called relief centres are at present at work in Orissa, *viz.* :—

In Cuttack	...	20
„ Poorce	...	20 and
„ Balasore	...	13
Total	...	53

At these centres cooked food is distributed, or raw rice in lieu of money wages, or rice on cash payment.

But it would seem that the relief given at these centres only extends to the case where food is distributed gratuitously to the class reduced to actual starvation, and that the collection of large numbers of people at these centres leads to much demoralization amongst both men and women (the latter becoming, it is said, little better than prostitutes), and to such a complete desertion and breaking up of homesteads, that persons returning to their villages from the centres find no homes to return to.

The causes of this are said to be found in the peculiar character of the Ooriahs, and in the effects that necessarily follow on desertion of homes in this country; and it may, perhaps, in truth be added, in the collection together of masses of half-starving men and women, a circumstance which would bring about immorality in any country.

It would appear also from the papers before the Committee that there is plenty of work in operation and in prospect to afford support to all able-bodied males, and that if wages were raised, or if the price at which grain is sold was lowered, such males could by such work obtain a sufficiency for their families also.

Probably, then, there need be no anxiety as regards actual death from starvation for the next two months.

But at the end of this period the Committee understand that of necessity the population must be induced to labor rather in their villages than on the public works, or the cultivation of the country will suffer.

As well then to put a stop to the demoralization, the breaking up of homes and the encouragement to vagrancy as a profession to which the collection of large bodies of strangers, men and women, at relief centres gives rise, and which such collection perpetuates, as to bring back to their fields that part of the population which is required for the cultivation of those fields, the Committee recommend that the congregations of people at relief centres be dispersed to whatever extent is humane and possible, and that the assembly of such congregations be for the future discouraged.

It is obvious, however, that when starvation at home has driven these congregations to seek food at the only places at which they can procure it, the relief centres, you cannot in the interest of humanity disperse nor refuse to allow the assembly of these congregations until you have provided at their homes food for the people composing them.

To this provision therefore the Committee will address themselves, and they desire, as a first step, to know where these depôts are or will be situated at which they may expect to find grain which they can purchase at the fixed price of Rs. 3-4 per maund.

They propose, then, to ascertain through the local Committees and Agents :-

First.—What sub-depôts for grain may be created, having

in view the object of bringing the grain nearer home to the people.

Secondly.—How, in the way the most sure, the most economical, and the least exposed to fraud, the grain may be conveyed from the Government depôts to the Committee's sub-depôts ; and

Thirdly.—How the grain from the sub-depôts may, under the above safeguards, be best distributed amongst the people at or near their homes.

The Committee feel that the practical determination of these matters must rest with the local Committees and the Relief Officers, but they would throw out the following suggestions :—

Firstly.—With reference to the sub-depôts, the Committee believe that every cluster of villages has its one or more markets to which one or more representatives of each family in the village has been in the habit of resorting on market days. The object then being to carry the grain as near as possible to the people, the sub-depôts might perhaps be selected so as to form a centre to several of those markets, and as there will probably be a market price for grain at those markets, that price might regulate the price at which the Committee would sell grain at their sub-depôts.

Secondly.—With reference to the carriage of grain from the Government depôts to the sub-depôts, the Agents to be selected might, if possible, be the ordinary *Beoparis* or grain carriers of the country, and they might be paid in grain or cash by wages, or by a commission, *i. e.*, so much grain upon delivery of so much at the sub-depôts.

Thirdly.—As to the Agents for distribution, this is the

most difficult question of all, and the only agency that has occurred to the Committee is either that of paid Agents, or of the Landlords; and probably a mixture of the two will be the best. The Landlords to distribute and paid Agents to check the distribution.

So soon as any system of relief is in that stage of forwardness that it can be worked in the villages, the Committee would recommend that the congregations of people at the relief centres be broken up somewhat after this fashion :—

The centres might still be used as depôts of food for distribution, gratis or on payment, but only those persons should be allowed to reside at the depôts—

1*st.*—For whom work is provided, or

2*nd.*—Who are incapacitated for work or travel (so long as the incapacity lasts).

The rest should be sent off to their homes with what the Relief Officers may consider food sufficient to enable them to reach home and to begin life again there.

As to the principles of distribution it is very difficult to lay down any, and the Committee would not wish to hamper the Local Committees and Agents, who must after all be the best judges : but it may be laid down broadly—

Firstly.—That sales should be made at such prices as will encourage to the utmost, and discourage to the least, private trade ; and

Secondly.—That no applicant should receive distribution gratis, or at rates below the fixed purchase price, unless there is ocular demonstration of the necessity of the relief, or unless, say after certificate given and enquiries made by or through the Zemindar or village mondols, or otherwise there is evidence of such necessity.

The Committee is well aware that in dealing with such large numbers spread over such a large area of country it may be impracticable to do all, or even nearly all, that the Committee proposes, but if the proposals are sound, then as much as can be done towards carrying them out should be done, and that immediately, and, with the concurrence of the Government, the Committee would at once instruct the Officers put under them and communicate with the Local Committees.

C. P. HOBHOUSE,
Chairman.

18*th February* 1867.

The operations of the Executive Committee are recorded at considerable length in the Chairman's letter to the Government of Bengal, dated 5th November 1868, embodied in a voluminous Report published under their authority.

	Rs.	As.	P.
The subscriptions and other receipts amounted to	6,21,991	5	0
The miscellaneous charges were ...	8,491	0	10
Leaving a balance of Rs....	6,13,500	4	2

which was devoted to the objects of the Fund.

CANDIAN REFUGEES' RELIEF FUND.

THE terrible amount of destitution and misery inflicted upon the inhabitants of Candia during the conflict which is still raging in that Island have already become extensively known through the ordinary and official public records. Upwards of 10,000 innocent persons—women, children, and old and infirm men—have been compelled to fly from their homes in that Island, their houses and their villages having been destroyed amidst the awful devastation of a struggle in which they could have had no part, and have fled for refuge (so many as were able to escape) to the Continent of Greece, the adjacent Islands, Smyrna, &c. They have been deprived of all their goods and all their means of livelihood.

Women and children nurtured in comparative affluence, and vast multitudes of others who had previously enjoyed, through frugal labour, a comfortable subsistence, are at this moment homeless, destitute, and starving.

The inhabitants of the villages and towns to which they have fled for safety are most generously exerting themselves, even to the exhaustion of their own resources, to provide lodging and the barest necessaries of life for these wretched and perishing refugees; and in view of the approaching winter, and of the imminent danger of those contagious diseases which are invariably attendant on famine and overcrowding, the most prompt and liberal aid is required to save them from a fate which common humanity cannot but shudder to contemplate.

In consideration of this terrible calamity, a Committee has been formed in London to raise a fund for the relief of these innocent sufferers; and they are convinced that the cry of helpless widows and orphans, and of the aged, the bereaved, and the destitute, will find, as it ever has found, a prompt and substantial response from the benevolence of the British public.

A Committee is now being established in Athens, composed of British and other gentlemen resident there, whose names will be a guarantee that the funds raised in this country will be distributed in the most perfect conformity with the principles on which the London Committee now solicit the contributions of the benevolent public. These are entirely independent of all political or sectarian considerations; the operations of the Committee will not have the slightest regard either to creed, race, or party. They are undertaking a work of pure and imperative charity, and they trust for the success of their efforts solely to that spirit of humanity and benevolence which impels the good of all classes and parties to alleviate the sufferings of the desolate and the dying, "to attend to the neglected, and to remember the forgotten."

Calcutta, 28th January 1867.

An influential Committee has been formed in London to raise a fund for the relief of the terrible misery which the insurrection in Candia has inflicted upon thousands of innocent persons—women, children, and old and infirm men—who have been compelled to abandon their homes in that Island and to fly for refuge to the Continent of Greece and adjacent places.

The Committee having appealed to the humanity and benevolence of the British public, for the means of alleviating the extreme distress which a great multitude of people are suffering, some gentlemen here have undertaken the duty of supplementing the efforts made in London by soliciting the generous contributions of all classes of the community of Calcutta.

A Committee was also being constituted in Athens, to whom the funds raised in England and elsewhere would be remitted, and whose relief operations, without regard to creed, race, or party, would be directed solely to the necessities of widows and orphans and those who were reduced to utter destitution.

The subscriptions amounted to	Rs.	10,261	0	0
Charges for advertisements		117	8	0
leaving a balance of	Rs.	10,143	8	0
which was remitted to the London Committee in a Bill for	£	972	1	9

H. W. I. WOOD,
Honorary Secretary.

Calcutta, 6th March 1867.

PIDDINGTON FUND.

Extract from Report of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

THE circumstances under which the Committee appealed to Members of this Chamber and to the public of Calcutta, as well as to the Chambers of Commerce and the communities of other cities, on behalf of the aged widow of the late Mr. Henry Piddington, were briefly set forth in their circular of 19th January; and the Committee have great pleasure in acknowledging the liberal response with which their appeal has been received. The subscription at present amounts to Rs. 8,859, which will enable the Committee to secure for Mrs. Piddington a material addition to her income.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Calcutta, 19th January 1870.

To

THE MEMBERS OF THE
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

DEAR SIRS,

THE Committee of the Chamber of Commerce request you will do them the favour of giving your indulgent attention to the narrative hereto appended, taken from a recent issue of *The Friend of India.*

Upon the circumstances which that narrative discloses the Committee venture to base an appeal to you in behalf of the widow of a man who has rendered incalculable

service in the cause of humanity and scientific knowledge, and by which the interests of merchants, and ship-owners and under-writers have, in countless instances and to an extent impossible to estimate, been protected and preserved.

To the late Mr. Piddington the maritime world is indebted for one of the most valuable results of scientific research, and his exposition of the Law of Storms is a treasury of knowledge to all whose profession it is to encounter and control the perils of the sea, and to whose care and skill and judgment life and property are unhesitatingly committed.

But the life-long labours of so great a benefactor have hitherto been unrequited; and the occasion which now presents them to your special notice affords this Chamber the opportunity of testifying its sense of the value of those labours by a substantial gift to his widow, whose circumstances your Committee have, after special inquiry, ascertained to be very slender.

The admission of her claim to your sympathy and your bounty will be the acknowledgment of your appreciation of her husband's meritorious services; and by initiating a movement which the commercial community at home and abroad will be invited to support, this Chamber of Commerce will perform a duty which the Committee consider it due to the memory of Mr. Piddington to discharge.

With the view of avoiding any exclusiveness in this matter, and of enabling other institutions and the public generally to subscribe to a common fund, the Committee think that indi-

vidual subscriptions need not be too liberal, and that Rs. 100 should be the maximum.

I am,

Dear Sirs,

Yours faithfully,

H. W. I. WOOD,

Secretary.

HENRY PIDDINGTON—A MODERN STORY.

A heap of old documents, in manuscript, in print, tied up in many packets by bits of tape of many colours, by bits of string, dogeared, much worn by use, discoloured by time! Official records? Scarcely, or only such in part. Returns of condemned stores duly filed, pigeon-holed to the crack of doom? Scarcely. Too much love is here, too much reverence, evinced in delicacy of arrangement, notes attached to this paper and to that, in what would seem to be a woman's handwriting: little nothings impossible to mistake. And printed forms too, wide margined, numbered and dated past all computation, peep here and there from amidst the heap. A story of mixed interest, no doubt, telling possibly of private endeavour, toil, patience, tears, sealed up with red wax, red tape, ignored, docketed, evermore set aside on public grounds. Public grounds, of course, slippery grounds, offering no standing room for honest men, denying all hope of redress to all; grounds appertaining to a public never consulted, hugely ignorant of the injustices perpetrated under its august name. Even so. Such the simple story

which lies buried in the old thumb worn documents before us. It may be very briefly told.

From 1822 to 1858. Within those not very far divided dates a manly, upward, scientific, and, to the public, most eminently useful life was commenced and ended in our midst, here in Calcutta and the Eastern seas. Henry Piddington, midshipman in the East India Company's service, reached India in 1822, and continued his career as a sailor for some ten years, during which he doubtless acquired the rudiments of a science the subsequent elaboration of which won for him the approbation of the maritime world, of all scientific men, Herschel not excepted. Leaving the sea, yet ever dreaming of it, toiling constantly to give a practical use, a local application to Sir William Reid's theory of storms, Henry Piddington discharged for the next fourteen years the office of Coroner for the town of Calcutta, upon the munificent monthly salary of £30. True, indeed, his predecessors had drawn well nigh three times £30 for discharging precisely similar work, but the sailor, sailor like, made no appeal, striving only, true public servant, to do the duty given to his hands. The Journals of the Asiatic Society of those days, from 1839 forwards, contain many-sided evidence of the intelligence, the industry of the man, all pointing seaward, all tending to indicate the progressive steps by which Henry Piddington was permitted, little by little, to unravel the laws by which the most terrible of all atmospheric convulsions are mercifully overruled. Those researches, it is needless to remark, were conducted under many difficulties, pecuniary and other. In 1846 the Government of Bengal was further pleased to add the office of President of the Marine Court to that of Coroner: position of laborious responsibility, demanding considerable knowledge of marine legal

procedure, British and foreign, at sea, in river, in harbour; theory and practice of seamanship; perfect familiarity with the Sandheads and dangerous navigation of the river Hooghly. Whereon, in consideration of the multifarious duties of the appointment, £15 per mensem was allowed to the said Piddington, above and beyond the £30 already mentioned, raising the salary of the President of the Marine Court, and Coroner for the town of Calcutta, to somewhat less than that of a Captain in a marching regiment.

Nothing daunted by poverty, Henry Piddington continued to distribute gratuitously from his private pocket copies of his nautical books and pamphlets to the Royal and Mercantile navies, seeking thereby to interest his fellow-sailors in those researches, to induce them to contribute materials for their further advancement. Touched at length by the noble unselfishness and self-sacrifice of the man, the Right Honourable the Lord Commissoners of Her Majesty's Admiralty in 1847 made a grant—little sack for so much good bread!—of £100 to assist him in the prosecution of his investigations, the importance of which even a British Admiralty could not fail to acknowledge. Not, however, until 1848 did Henry Piddington publish the Sailor's Hornbook, exposition of the Law of Storms, especially as applicable to our Eastern Seas, so admirable, accurate and exhaustive that, whilst it has gone through three editions within the last twenty years, and been translated into almost every European tongue, it continues to be, without qualification, the one standard work upon the subject. By it the cyclone or typhoon caught mariner is taught to know the precise position occupied by his ship in the circling hurricane; the storm's course, direct as well as rotatory; the shortest and safest route by which to escape from that

fatal embrace. To the teaching of its modest pages hundreds owe their lives: millions sterling of floating property have been economized by its wisdom. The Sailor's Horn-book received the highest commendation from Herschel, Sir William Reid, and other eminent men of science: H. M.'s Admiralty expressed their approbation by assigning to it a place in the chart-chests of their ships; the officers of the Peninsular and Oriental Navigation Company publicly testified their high opinion of its worth: by direction of the Government of Bengal all ships taken up by Government, coolie and other, were required to carry this work. There is not to-day an educated Captain of a ship trading to Calcutta, or other Indian port, who will not endorse the opinions then expressed. Time and experience have only further demonstrated the soundness of the basis upon which the Horn-book was reasoned by its author from alpha to omega. The work, the loving work of a life, accomplished, there remained little to Henry Piddington, writing figuratively, save a hewing of wood and drawing of water. He continued nevertheless to find in the pages of the Asiatic Journal scientific relaxation from the heavy duties of a life now gradually drawing to a close.

On the 7th April 1858 the old sailor, of world-wide reputation, self-made, self-educated, a noble instance of self-help, was called away, leaving little to his widow and children, except the memory of a good man. Pension there was none whatever. What mattered it? The public, the Government, served well for five and twenty years, would make provision for them, so whispered his sailor heart, lying there, slow sinking to rest. And who dares assert provision had not been made for the widow? But alas, public troubles past—1857, present—1858, future—1859, terrible in poig-

nancy, drove from the public mind all lesser sense of public duty. Men in presence of national calamity take small count of private suffering: in a word, the claims of the widow of Henry Piddington were overlooked. Little world-wise, having few friends, Mrs. Piddington, instead of appealing direct to the quick instincts of Lord Canning, submitted to the Court of Directors a memorial begging for some small pension in recognition of the services of her late husband. The Court replied with fine sense of satire that, "while duly appreciating the scientific attainments of the late Mr. Piddington it could see no sufficient reason for granting a pension to his widow." Of course not. Had the grant solicited been for the use of Jagganath's car, the case would have excited a much larger sympathy in the hearts of those Leadenhall-street Samaritans. Seven years later another memorial, burdened with the same cry for justice, travelled home; this time to the Secretary of State for India. "Mon mari," exclaimed the old lady of French descent, with something of pride, "mon mari n'a jamais manqué á son devoir, et le gouvernment auglais est trop honorable de manquer au sien." Obviously this poor French woman had not mastered Indian House ethics. At length an answer came, the character of which will be inferred from the fact that it was dictated by Sir Charles Wood. The widow begged for such pittance "as will rescue her from her present straitened circumstances and place her beyond the reach of poverty." Sir Charles declared that her prayer could not be acceded to:—absolutely not another word.

And now, in olden phraseology, our story is done, at least, nearly so. It is susceptible, our readers will well observe, of a touching, a most natural, a not impossible termination if,

only, we have succeeded in enlisting, on behalf of its aged heroine, the sympathies of Lord and Lady Mayo, and those also of the public of Calcutta.

The appeal to the public resulted in a subscription of Rs. 10,708-10-5, which, with accruing interest, has admitted of the payment to Mrs. Piddington of a monthly allowance of Rs. 100—a provision which will be continued for some years.

THE CALCUTTA AUXILIARY TO THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR AID TO THE SICK AND WOUNDED IN THE WAR.

At a meeting convened by public advertisment, and held at the office of the Chamber of Commerce, on Monday, the 28th November 1870, a Committee, consisting of the undermentioned gentlemen, was appointed for the purpose of establishing an Auxiliary to the National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in the War between Franco and Germany.

The Hon'ble J. R. Bullen Smith, President of the Chamber of Commerce, at the request of the meeting, took the chair, and opened the proceedings by explaining the circumstances which had led to the present attendance. The object of the meeting was to establish a recognised Committee, composed of the representatives of all classes of the community of Calcutta, for the special purpose of supplementing the efforts of the National Society of England for Aiding the Sick and Wounded in the War on the Continent of Europe.

The collection of funds in India, and remitting them to the Committee in London, would be the most effectual means of assisting the great object of the National Society, and the sympathy of Her Majesty's subjects in this country, and of all other nationalities with that object, and their appreciation of the humane endeavours to mitigate the sufferings of the thousands of sick and wounded, would be best exhibited by a cordial and prompt response to the call now made by this Committee for liberal contributions to the Fund which would this day be established.

THE CHAIRMAN then proposed that the following gentlemen form the Committee, with power to add to their number :—

Major the Hon'ble E. R. Bourke, the Hon'ble David Cowie, the Hon'ble J. B. Phear, V. Schalch, Esq., C. S., H. Sandeman, Esq., C. S., the Rev. B. T. Atlay, the Rev. E. C. Stuart, the Rev. J. Stephenson, S. E. Collis, Esq., J. F. Ogilvy, Esq., Manockjee Rustomjee, Esq., Baboo Rajendrololl Mitter, Baboo Keshub Chunder Sen, Rajah Suttyanund Ghosal, Bahadoor, Colonel H. L. Thuiller, Colonel J. Atkinson, J. Fayrer, Esq., M.D., C. Palmer, Esq., M.D., H. Beadon, Esq., J. H. Haworth, Esq., Baboo Doorga Churn Law, and the Chairman. Mr. Wood, Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, to be Honorary Secretary and Treasurer.

P. T. Ralli, Esq., B. D. Colvin, Esq., and F. G. Eldridge, Esq., were added to the Committee.

The meeting cordially approved of the Chairman's remarks. The proposed Committee were unanimously elected, and after a slight discussion as to the title of the local organisation, it was resolved to call it—*The Calcutta Auxiliary to the National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in the War.*

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements on account of Sick and Wounded Fund.

Subscriptions ...		Rs. 21,797	5 1
Cost of Remittances to London £1,984-6-10	Rs. 21,220 4 11		
Charges for Advertisements, Printing, Postage, Receipt Stamps, &c. ...	577 0 2		
		21,797	5 1

H. W. I. WOOD,
Hony. Secy. and Treasurer.

Calcutta, 21st June 1871.

"CAPTAIN" RELIEF FUND.

Proceedings of a Meeting held at the Chamber of Commerce on Monday, the 28th November 1870.

THE proceedings in connection with the establishment of the *Calcutta Auxiliary to the National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War* having terminated, the Chairman, the Hon'ble J. R. Bullen Smith, read to the meeting the following letter which he had received from the Military Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General. He considered this a fitting opportunity of giving publicity to a communication which appealed to the sympathy and benevolence of the community. He believed that a desire generally existed to subscribe to the fund which had been raised in England for the relief of the widows, orphans, and families of the crew who perished in Her Majesty's turret-ship *Captain*, but until a recognised Committee was established, and a public movement made in the matter, he feared that object would not be realised to the extent it would otherwise reach. He therefore proposed that the gentlemen, who had been elected as a Committee for the purposes already disposed of, should be requested to act as the Committee for the "*Captain*" *Relief Fund*, the functions of the Committee being, of course, altogether distinct, the subscription and accounts being kept quite separate.

"FROM CAPTAIN LEVESON E. H. SOMERSET, Royal Navy, Honorary Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Calcutta, India.—Royal Navy College, Portsmouth, 13th October 1870.

"SIR,—I AM directed by the Central Managing Committee to request your co-operation in aid of the above fund,

and to express a hope that by your powerful influence and patronage in your Government, the fund will receive that augmentation which it so much needs, and which the Committee feel sure requires no recommendation from them to ensure the substantial aid and sympathy of their fellow-countrymen abroad.

"Such an unparalleled calamity, resulting in loss of life greater than at the battle of Trafalgar, has consequently left a large number of families in most distressing circumstances. A sum of £60,000 is required to alleviate the distress of the widows, orphans, and relations, who depended for their maintenance on those lost in the *Captain*, and the support of Government is totally inadequate to meet these cases. Up to the present time, only £20,000 has been collected, so that there is a wide margin left for the charitably disposed, and the Committee are confident that this national loss only requires to be known to meet with that hearty response which has invariably characterized our countrymen in distant lands.

"The Committee, therefore, trust your Excellency will take such steps as you may deem advisable to cause the object they have in view to be made known throughout your Government."

MAJOR THE HON'BLE E. R. BOURKE seconded the proposition, and warmly advocated the cause referred to in the letter submitted to the meeting, and trusted that the appeal conveyed by it would be met by a benevolent and liberal contribution to the necessities of the numerous families who had been suddenly plunged into the direst distress by a catastrophe which involved the instant destruction of the noblest ship in the British Navy, and the loss of her gallant commander and crew.

It was thereupon unanimously resolved that the Committee for the *Calcutta Auxiliary to the National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in the War* should be the Committee for the "*Captain*" *Relief Fund, viz.*, Major the Hon'ble E. R. Bourke, the Hon'ble David Cowie, the Hon'ble J. B. Phear, V. H. Schalch, Esq., C. S., H. Sandeman, Esq., C. S., the Rev. B. T. Atlay, the Rev. E. C. Stuart, the Rev. J. Stephenson, S. E. Collis, Esq., J. F. Ogilvy, Esq., P. T. Ralli, Esq., Manockjee Rustomjee, Esq., Baboo Rajendrololl Mitter, Baboo Keshub Chunder Sen, Rajah Suttyanund Ghosal, Bahadoor, Colonel H. L. Thuillier, Colonel J. Atkinson, J. Fayrer, Esq., M. D., C. Palmer, Esq., M. D., H. Beadon, Esq., J. H. Haworth, Esq., Baboo Doorga Churn Law, and the Chairman, with power to add to their number. Mr. Wood, Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, to be Honorary Secretary and Treasurer.

The meeting broke up after a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure on account "Captain" Relief Fund.

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
Subscriptions ...			...	12,878	1	3
Cost of Remittances to London £1,162-0-11 ...	12,440	8	11			
Charges for Advertising, Printing, Stationery, Receipt Stamps, &c. ...	437	8	4			
				12,878	1	3

H. W. I. WOOD,
Hony. Secy. and Treasurer.

Calcutta, 21*st June* 1871.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE SISTER OF THE LATE THOMAS WAGHORN.

Extract from Report of Bengal Chamber of Commerce for the half-year ended 30th April 1872.

AT the request of an old and respected member of the Chamber, Mr. Samuel Griffiths of Messrs. William Moran and Co., a subsciption list was circulated a few weeks ago for the purpose of raising a small fund to relieve the distressed circumstances of the aged sister of the late Mr. Waghorn, whose enterprise and successful exertions in connection with the establishment of overland communication between India and Europe, by way of Egypt, entitled his services to grateful recognition by Government and the public; and the Committee are glad to announce that contributions to the extent of 4,000 Rupees have been placed in the hands jointly of Mr. Griffiths and Mr. James Layton of Mincing Lane, London, to be appropriated for Miss Waghorn's benefit in such manner as they may think will best secure that object. It was suggested however that in the event of her death before those funds were exhausted—she being nearly 70 years of age—any surplus should be returned to the subscribers to be applied to some other charitable purpose.

The subscriptions amounted to ... Rs. 4,076 0 0
the equivalent of which ... £403 3 4
admitted of an investment yielding about £28 per annum.

Boley Hill, Rochester, 29th April 1872.

To

SAMUEL P. GRIFFITHS, Esq.

Dear Sir,

I beg to return my sincere thanks to you for your most kind efforts on my behalf in raising the Fund for my benefit in Calcutta. And to all the donors to that Fund allow me, through you, to express the feeling of my deep and grateful sense of their kindness and sympathy extended to me.

I am,

Dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

Mary Jane Waghorn,

Sister of the Late Lieutenant Waghorn,
Founder of the Overland Route to India.

MAYO MEMORIAL.

From the "Indian Daily News" of 6th March 1872.

PURSUANT to notice a meeting of the citizens of Calcutta was held at the Town Hall on the 5th March 1872 to express profound sorrow at the recent tragedy at Port Blair, and to record the deep sense of the community at the loss sustained by the country at large in Earl Mayo's untimely death. The meeting was convened for half past 4 o'clock. Among the gentlemen who occupied the platform, we observed most of those whose names are enumerated below in connexion with the third resolution. The meeting was largely and influentially attended.

Mr. COWIE, the Sheriff of Calcutta, in opening the meeting, read out the requisition convening the meeting, and proposed that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor take the chair.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal said :—Gentlemen,—We are collected here together for a great, sad, and, I may say, solemn occasion. Perhaps it might be said by some that we in this great city, so intimately connected with our late Viceroy, should have been the first to demonstrate our public feeling; but gentlemen, I must say that I visit that criticism as without foundation. We are here in the more immediate scene of mourning, we who have but lately paid our last respects to the great man who has been taken from among us, we who have but to-day paid the last due to his Lady who has left Calcutta—it is more becoming that we should have waited till the first

days of mourning were over to express thus publicly our grief, and sorrow, and respect for the memory of Lord Mayo.

It has fallen to me to preside on this occasion. Lord Napier has communicated to me his entire and heartfelt sympathy with the objects of this meeting; but for reasons which I dare say you will be able to perceive, he has thought it better in a spontaneous meeting of this kind to refrain from taking any personal part in it. And on the other hand, as one of the residents of Calcutta, as one of the community, I feel that I am honored in being called upon to take part in the proceedings of this day. This is an occasion on which both official and non-official should feel honored in being allowed to do honor to the memory of our late lamented Viceroy. Those of us who have been officially connected with the late Lord Mayo have had the best and greatest opportunities of knowing, and appreciating, and loving him. Of him it may be most eminently said, that to the non-officials also he was personally known by them, personally loved by them, and appreciated by them as fully as he was by the official community. And I think I may say, gentlemen, that I speak in the name of all when I say that we have not met together to express the grief when a great man is taken away from us, but in the case of the late Lord Mayo our grief is something personal—it is a grief which is exceptional. We mourn not only for a great man; but a great man much above his fellows, a man who has worked for the good of this country, a man who has been unfortunately taken from us. (Applause.)

I think I may say that I express not only my own personal feelings, but the feelings of those around me when I say that it would be difficult in all the limits of the great English

empire to find a man who united so many great personal and public qualities, which endeared him to all, and which you may expect to see united in a single man. I may say that I know no man who so eminently combined in himself that which has been described in classical language—"a sound mind and a sound body." His was a mind eminently sound and his was a body which, being physically sound, enabled the mind to act with all its vigour. He was a man eminently honest and eminently simple-minded, and I may say of all virtues straight forward honesty is the first. He was also a man of great experience in administrative work. He came here with ripe administrative experience—he came here as I have said, a man with a sound mind in a sound body, and three years he has worked amongst us with eminent success. He was a man who by his personal qualities conquered all hearts, and who as a public man devoted himself to the great duties which had fallen upon him, with a thoroughness and singleness of purpose which I for one could never sufficiently admire, and which I am sure equally interested all with whom he came in contact. What are called politics in England are out of place in this country. Happily we lose sight of all party-distinctions in the grand duties of governing this great country, in which I trust we all work in common. But this I may venture to say, that having no party-connection with Lord Mayo, and no party-predilection in his favour, I have been more and more impressed with admiration of his public character, and respect for him as a public administrator. To the most unwearied zeal and devotion he added the best habits of business, and a knowledge of administrative detail which I may call unprecedented among the statesmen sent from England to this country. When a

man possessed of such knowledge and such experience throws himself with single-minded zeal and enthusiasm into a great work, and guides it by an unfailing temper and singular tact, the result cannot but be success; and I venture, as one who has had the honor of serving the late Viceroy, to express my very humble and very strong conviction that he has been an eminently successful Viceroy and Governor-General, that his reign has been productive of the very greatest good to the country, and that it promised much more if his life had been spared. He was indeed a man of a truly liberal mind, and I have never in any part of my public service met with any man who more sincerely and earnestly put before all the things the good of the public service—of the masses of men committed to his charge. He has made himself eminently respected, and trusted by the upper classes—Princes and Chiefs and well-to-do people—who personally knew and loved him ; but above and before all he always placed the interests, and the rights, and the feelings of the dumb masses who could not personally know him, but over whose interests he always watched with unfailing care. He was eminently a man of the people ; he was a man who had at heart the interests of those classes to whom he was personally unknown. This was the characteristic of Lord Mayo. Whatever he set his hand to do, he did it with an honest enthusiasm for the good of the people. There was a time when my prejudices were not in favor of Irishmen, I got over that some time ago; but this I will say, that the experience of Lord Mayo has impressed me very much with the idea that Irishmen and men of Irish experience are particularly well fitted to govern India. There is much curious analogy between the two countries, the tenure of land is especially similar, and I do believe that

a man with an Irish heart, be he high or be he low, has more frequently a real sympathy with the people than those who have been accustomed to a more autocratic system. I will not dwell upon the manner of his death—a death which was so sad a shock; but it will suffice to say that in the midst of his glorious career, in the midst of the fullness of his vigour, it has pleased God to take him from us. The stroke was the stroke of an assassin, but we also humbly acknowledge that it was the work of God. That stroke has taken him away from us, and we are here to regret his loss. I may say that he was pre-eminently remarkable for the virtues of a man and father. I myself will never forget when he took a last affecting farewell of his little boy, Terence. I well remember when he said "good bye" to that boy and that scene will ever be impressed in my memory, and it will remain with me to the last day of my life. The scene was characteristic of the man whom we have lost and it was a scene that will be remembered by me. As a man and a statesman many millions of people in all parts of the world will know and remember him. I believe in no part of Her Majesty's dominions will his memory be more cherished than in Ireland and India. I hope and believe he will be succeeded by a statesman who will maintain the honor and dignity of the crown of England, but this I must say that no statesman who will succeed him can possibly devote himself to the interests of India as Lord Mayo has done. I am quite sure that whatever the loss may be to England, and however that loss may be supplied, to the people of India the loss they have sustained is irreparable, (Cheers). I am glad to see that in this meeting are represented not only the countrymen of Lord Mayo, but a very large number of natives. I am sure that they will participate with us in the expression of

our feeling; and with these words I beg to open the proceedings, and to call upon the Hon'ble Mr. Phear to move the first reesolution.

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Phear, in moving the first resolution, said:—Gentlemen,—The unanimity of sentiment with which we are all animated, and to which His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has just given such forcible expression, will render it unnecessary that I should address to you many words in support of the resolution which I shall presently call upon you to adopt. Not one among us will ever forget the dark hour when on the Course and in the city rumours spread, we knew not whence, and growing with the fleeting moment, at last led us to that certainty which sent a shock, not of weakness or of fear, but of horror and of indignation through the whole population of our town. The wave of feeling thus generated spread in widening circles, till it touched the uttermost portions of India, undisturbed by a single ripple of discordance. Everywhere the cry is alike, in the marble hall and in the wattled hut, alike on the lips of the Christian, the Mahomedan, and the Hindoo—"Can it be that the noble ruler of this vast Empire has been foully struck down by the cowardly hand of a miserable convict? Shall such deeds like this be done in our land?" (Cheers). Gentlemen, I will not ask you to look at the political side of our late Viceroy's administration, because I am quite sure you will agree with me that it would not be fitting on this occasion, nor becoming the office which I have the honor to hold, if I entered upon a ground of possible controversy or discussion; but, gentlemen, I cannot refrain from asking you to allow your memories to dwell for a few moments upon the breadth and vigour of Lord Mayo's administrative activity. He

ascended the steps of Government House for the first time on the 20th of January 1869, and in the three short years which followed upon that date, until the deplorable event of his sad death, what a crowd of events testify to the versatility of his untiring energy. I will not endeavour to enumerate these. I will just point one or two directions in which you may find them, commencing with his magnificent and cordial reception of the Ameer of Cabool. He applied his personal efforts in cementing, and establishing, and strengthening our relations with every power and principality surrounding India, from Persia on the west, to Burmah and Siam on the east, including our great and powerful neighbour Russia. And you all know the success with which he cultivated the personal friendship of the many chiefs who are within the limits of India itself. Then again, in the department of the internal administration of this country, I believe I may say truly that he made himself ubiquitous: his eye was everywhere, his influence was felt in every quarter, and the esteem and regard which he entertained for the natives of this country, was never, I am certain, exceeded in the case of any other European here. He had from the very commencement taken a personal liking to the natives of this country, and he was always deeply sensible of the obligations which lie not only upon the heads of the Government, but on all connected with the ruling power here—obligations towards the population of this country. The college he established in Ajmere, for the education of the sons of Princes and Chiefs, was, I have reason to know, intended by him to be but the commencement of a system to be extended throughout India, and the recent orders which he gave relative to the education of Mussulmans, will ever prove the deep feeling and thorough interest that he took in the welfare of every class of the

community (Cheers.) And, gentlemen, the frequent and constant journies of Lord Mayo throughout the length and breadth of the land were dictated by an earnest and deep-seated desire to make himself personally acquainted with the circumstances and the wants of the great people over whom he had been called upon to rule. (Applause.) It was with this spirit—this high and public spirit of duty, that he undertook his last and fatal expedition to the Andamans. Of Lord Mayo as the leader of our society and as a friend, I am sure your thoughts will anticipate everything that I could speak. In his manly figure and firm general bearing, he was an example of the very best class of English gentleman (Cheers), and the courtesy of demeanour which he invariably exhibited was no mere outward polish—it was the genuine manifestation of his excellent heart. In him, gentlemen, we mourn at once an accomplished Governor, a conscientious statesman, and many among us a cherished friend. I need scarcely say that we feel angered at the worthlessness of the cause which has taken the life of such a man from among us. Grief and indignation impel us to come forward to make an endeavour at expressing our common feelings; and I trust and feel confident that, for this reason alone, you will all gladly adopt the resolution which I am asked now to put before you (Cheers).— It is "That this meeting desires to express profound sorrow at the recent catastrophe by which the Government of India has so suddenly been deprived of its illustrious Head, to record its deep sense of the loss sustained by the country at large in the death of its able and high-minded Ruler, and to bear testimony to the eminent administrative qualities and manifold private virtues of the late Viceroy, the Earl of Mayo."

Baboo Degumber Mitter then rose and said:—I beg to second the resolution, and in doing so would refrain from addressing the meeting at length, lest I should mar the effect of the very able and eloquent speech to which we have just listened with such thrilling emotion. I will simply content myself by saying that my countrymen, one and all deeply mourn the loss which the country has sustained by the late calamitous event. They regard with the greatest horror and abhorence the diabolical act, by which they have been deprived of such a wise and kind ruler. They cherish his memory with the utmost love and veneration—sentiments naturally evoked by the widely-diffused sympathy by which the late lamented nobleman brought hinself in contact with the highest as well as the lowest of the land. While the pages of history will chronicle many instances of sagacity and wisdom, by which he nobly endeavoured to establish on solid foundation peace abroad and tranquillity at home, tradition will not fail to hand down to generations yet unborn many incidents which, though insingficant in themselves, are yet most potent in endearing a ruler to the hearts of the people. I may recall to your mind one touching instance—I mean the gracious and chivalrous manner in which he responded to the welcome with which the unsophisticated young ladies and matrons of Rannaghaut greeted their noble and beloved ruler to their native village a short time before his departure from these shores, alas! never to return. Few can forget the sunshine of Lord Mayo's face, always beaming with kindness and generosity, and his example ought to teach rulers of men that though duty may require them to be stern in the application of laws and measures, still there is nothing in the nature of that duty which need make the heart impervious to the generous impulses of our common human nature.

Moulvie Abdool Luteef, Khan Bahadoor, in supporting the resolution, said:—Gentlemen,—Little did I dream that I should have lived to a day when the land is overspread with grief from end to end, at the most terrible calamity which could have happened to a nation. In the face of a disaster so sad, so sudden, so cruelly brought about, so far-reaching, as I am afraid it will be in its ultimate effects, all private griefs seem to shrink into insignificance. For the past three weeks there has been nothing more talked about in every household. Each man speaks to his neighbour as if he had lost a dear and venerated chief of his own family; and whatever we may speak here to-day will be but the echo of the feelings which give vent to conversation in every dwelling in the country. For us Mohamedans it is a heavy calamity—far too heavy for any words of mine to express. It is not only that we have to mourn the untimely end of an illustrious friend and protector—one from whom great things were expected, and not unreasonably, for the improvement of our community. But the deed which has crushed a populace, and has brought desolation over a whole Empire, and unspeakable distress in the family of the noble Earl, has been commited by a ruffian, claiming to be one of the same faith with ourselves. Well, gentlemen, we have enough to bear of the burden of sorrow common with other denizens of the Empire; we have to suffer under the consciousness that the honored name of Islam is being taken throughout the world in connection with the perpetrator of the vilest assassination recorded in history. I need not call upon my co-religionists to join me in execrating the atrocious deed, as well as the villain by whom it has been done. It may be some consolation to know that the British nation, with the nice sense of honor and justice which is peculiarly its own, has breathed

not even a suspicion that there was, or there should possibly be, any connection between the diabolical act and the religion, or political or social views of the races in India, who owe allegiance to Islam. But nevertheless, it is distressing for one who entertains a proper sense of national honor to know that in mentioning the culprit's name, the remotest relation should be thought to exist between him and the faith which is our comfort and our inheritance. In regard to the business which has called us together, I must express the hope that the consolation which it is proposed to offer may, through the blessing of the All Merciful, find its way into the heart of the noble Lady whose bereavement is shared by the world. Gentlemen, I cannot trust myself to say more, and, therefore, I conclude by supporting the resolution which has just been moved and seconded.

The resolution was put to the vote and carried.

His Excellency General the Right Hon'ble Lord NAPIER OF MAGDALA, in moving the next resolution said : Gentlemen,—I am thankful to my fellow-citizens for entrusting to me the resolution which I am about to submit to you, thus connecting me personally with your expression of sympathy for Lady Mayo in her terrible calamity, in which I need hardly say I most heartily join. The administrative and personal qualities of our late lamented Viceroy have been so eloquently set forth by the gentlemen who have preceded me, that I have but little to say upon that head ; but this I may venture to add, that in no way did Lord Mayo more strongly show the appreciation of his great duties than in making the princes and chiefs of the people of India sensible that he was the representative, the personal representative, of our Most Gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria. (Applause.) In our early days in India, we brought peace, and order, and

personal security, instead of misrule and disorder, and the people of those days were thankful for the benefits which they received from the unknown, mysterious, and distant power, which they could not understand. But deep in the hearts of the people there lingered a vacancy, a memory of the old Empire of India, which it was desirous should be felt, and none of the great statesmen who have governed India have more fully or completely endeavoured to fill that vacancy by making the people, princes, and chiefs of India feel that he was the representative of a great sovereign of a great monarchy, which desired to embrace and combine them all with the British people in one great nation (Cheers), in holding out the cordial hand of friendship to the princes and chiefs of India, and guiding and assisting them to take their places and their share in the Government of this country.

And I feel convinced that none of the princes and chiefs of India, who came within Lord Mayo's influence, but most heartily loved and appreciated him, and desired his approbation of the manner in which they governed their people. In all these high duties he was helped and encouraged by the Countess of Mayo. She used every endeavour by her soft influence to add to the effect of his measures, and also equally with him held out the hand of friendship to the Native chiefs and princes of India. We have seen Lady Mayo with kind and continual courtesy entering into everything to promote the happiness of society. We have observed her endeavouring to see that the duties of Viceroyalty should be complete in every sense, and we have seen her, alas! with undiminished, unfailing devotion, fulfilling these duties to their mournful end. It seems but a few short weeks since Lord Mayo was the guest in my camp at Delhi. On the evening of his departure from Delhi, and when he left us, he

seemed so full of health, such joyous life, such unbounded energy and ability, that we thought his journey of a few thousand miles was nothing, and that we should certainly meet him again. And if this sad and miserable event fills our heart with mourning and affects us so deeply, how must she, the companion of his life, the partner of his cares and successes, be affected; how must she need the comfort and the sympathy of those who loved and admired him, and of all the people of this country? I feel sure that the resolution which I have to submit to you will find an echo in every breast. (Cheers.) The resolution is as follows:—

"That this meeting, while recognising the great public calamity involved in the death of the late Viceroy, is deeply sensible of the irreparable loss which has fallen upon his family, and desires most respectfully to convey to the Countess of Mayo the assurance of its heartfelt sympathy in this her great sorrow."

Baboo Roma Nath Tagore in seconding the resolution spoke as follows:—

Gentlemen,— I beg to second the resolution.

I sincerely sympathize with the Countess of Mayo in the grave affliction which has befallen her. Nature has made woman's heart far more soft than man's, and however we may mourn the sad catastrophe, which has brought us together on this occasion, we of the sterner sex cannot hope to measure the depth of grief and sorrow which this terrible blow has caused to the noble Lady, who was ere-while and in every sense the partner of the honors and joys of the illustrious deceased. There is always a distinction between natural death and violent death. When a person is carried away in the usual course of nature, our sorrow is certainly great; but our grief knows no bounds when we

see one near and dear to us snatched away not by disease, not even by mere accident, but by the foul hands of an assassin stabbing him in the dark, and cutting him off in the full bloom of his career and glory. I do not wish to debate on this painful subject, for it brings only sad recollections to the mind, and adds to the poignancy of the grief which is so universal. I will conclude by praying that may God Almighty vouchsafe Lady Mayo grace and strength of mind, and bless her and her children with a safe voyage home.

Mr. A. MONEY, in supporting the resolution, said that to him as well as to the previous speaker had been entrusted the honor of seconding the resolution which His Excellency Lord Napier had proposed. He felt that after what had fallen from the speakers, he had very little to add. Moreover, the subject-matter of this resolution was not one on which comment would be at all appropriate.

When men feel strongly, he did not believe they cared to listen to much talk. That they all felt, and felt very strongly, the weight of this blow which has fallen upon them, this great assembly here to-day was the best proof, if proof were wanted. But the fact was very patent. In the gloom which has hung over Calcutta like a funeral pall, lay the best assurance that the heart of this great city had been moved and stirred to its inmost depths, by the untimely death of one whom we all regarded with respect and esteem. He doubted if there was one man there among them all who had not felt the loss of Lord Mayo as a personal loss Probably there was scarcely any one, had he been there, who would not have interposed between the assassin and his

victim, and to save his life would gladly have given his own. (Applause.) If the facts were as he had stated them, it was quite clear that any words from him, or from any one else, were required to excite their sympathy and to awaken their regrets. But there was one other consideration which prevented him at the present time from expressing at length his feelings on the subject. All sorrow was sacred. But if ever there was a sorrow pre-eminently great—if ever there was a sorrow which men would touch softly—it was the sorrow caused by their irreparable loss of Lord Mayo to his family. Before the great and inexpressible sorrow of Lady Mayo as a wife and a mother, who was without a moment's notice deprived of all hope and comfort, what could they do but bow the head in silence, and hope that in His own good time it would please the Almighty to lighten the affliction. But he thought there was one thing which might be done—"Sorrow shared is sorrow soothed." They could, in the words of the resolution, assure Lady Mayo that their warmest sympathies were hers, that they all—Christians, Hindoos, and Mussulmans—of every creed and class, felt with her and with her mourned in common the loss which she and they had sustained. The assurance and knowledge that not only in this city but all over India, hundreds and thousands of men, her countrymen and not her countrymen, have felt with her, have sighed with her, and have prayed for her, would bring confort to her heart, and would probably be the small streak of silver lining in the black cloud which overshadows her life. (Applause.)

The resolution was formally put to the vote and carried unanimously.

The Hon'ble Mr. BULLEN SMITH, in proposing the third resolution, said he had not many remarks to trouble the meeting with. Believing as he did that he whose loss they had that day met together to deplore had sought at all times the real benefit of the people of this country, he felt convinced that had it been permitted to him to finish his official career, he would have desired no more grateful testimonial in leaving this country than an expression of heartfelt sympathetic approval from those over whom he ruled. This had not been permitted, and Providence had decreed that his rule should end suddenly and tragically. They were thus denied the opportunity of according to their parting Viceroy a "God speed" on his homeward way. It, therefore, remained for them to consider by what means they could best endeavour to set forth their regard and their appreciation for his worth. In saying this, he felt quite convinced that many who loved and honored the late Earl Mayo when living would now, that he was dead, endeavour long to keep his memory green in their hearts without any other aid, than that which their own cherished recollections would afford. But he felt sure that there was no one among that assembly who would not come forward to aid the Committee to erect a suitable testimonial to all that goodness which had so suddenly been extinguished—something that would bring before them the recollection of that manly form, honest heart, and that pleasant countenance which had now passed away from amongst them for ever. (Applause).

Mr. Bullen Smith in a few further remarks stated that the form of the testimonial, though several suggestions had been made, had not yet been decided on ; but that when the

proper time came the wishes of all the subscribers would be consulted and the testimonial decided upon. He concluded by moving the following resolution :—

"That with a view to perpetuating the memory of the late Viceroy, the following Committee be appointed, with power to add to their number, for the purpose of collecting subscriptions ; the form of the memorial to be decided upon hereafter :—

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The Hon'ble the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, His Excellency General the Right Hon'ble Lord Napier of Magdala, G. C. B, G. C. S. I., the Lord Bishop of Calcutta, the Most Rev. the Archbishop and Vicar Apostolic of Western Bengal, the Hon'ble J. Strachey, the Hon'ble Sir R. Temple, K. C. S. I., the Hon'ble B. H. Ellis, the Hon'ble General Norman, C. B.. Rajah Kali Krishna, Bahadoor, Rajah Komul Krishna, Bahadoor, the Hon'ble Sir R. Couch, Kt., the Hon'ble J. B. Phear, the Hon'ble Louis Jackson, the Hon'ble Dwarkanath Mitter, the Hon'ble J. R. Bullen Smith, the Hon'ble R. Stewart, the Advocate General, J. Pitt Kennedy, Esq., the Sheriff of Calcutta, Koomar Harendra Krishna, Bahadoor, Rajah Suttyanund Ghosal, Bahadoor, Brigadier General W. L Ingall, C. B., Colonel T. James, O. T. Burne, E. C. Bayley, Esq., V. H. Schalch, Esq., R. B. Chapman, Esq., C. U. Aitchison, Esq., C. S. I., Colonel H. K Burne, Colonel C. H. Dickens, Colonel B. E. Bacon, Colonel F. D. Atkinson, Colonel M. J. Turnbull, H. Leonard, Esq., C. E,. Rajah Rajendra Narain Deb, Bahadoor, Rajah Narendra Krishna, Colonel Thuillier, C. S. I., S. Wauchope, Esq., C. B., A. Money, Esq., C. B., Lord H. Ulick

Brown, C. Miller, Esq., Captain H. Howe, G. Barclay, Esq., H. Woodrow, Esq, M. Bebee, Esq., J. B. Roberts, Esq., G. W. Kellner, Esq., R. H. Hollinghery, Esq., J. F. Rutherfoord, Esq., T. A. Vlasto, Esq., N. J. Valetta, Esq., A. Thorndike, Esq., Edward Palmer, Esq, F. Prestage, Esq., Horace Cockerell, Esq, C. S., J. A. Crawford, Esq, T. M. Robinson, Esq., Thomas A. Apcar, Esq., P. A. Cavorke, Esq, Baboo Romanath Tagore, Rajah Jotendro Mohun Tagore, Baboo Chunder Mohun Chatterjee, W. Pirie Duff, Esq., Baboo Digumber Mitter, Baboo Hera Lall Seal, C. E. Bernard, Esq., Colonel A. B. Johnson, Colonel B. Walton, Baboo Kasi Prosad Ghose, Baboo Sham Churn Mullick, Manackjee Rustomjee, Esq., Rev. B. T. Allay, Rev. J. Stephenson, Rev. Dr. Murray Mitchell, Rev. J. Macallister Thompson, J Ewart, Esq., M. D., N. Chevers, Esq., M. D., Baboo Khelut Chunder Ghose, Baboo Doorga Churn Law, G. S. Fagan, Esq., L P. D. Broughton, Esq., Elias S. Gubboy, Esq, C. C. Macrae, Esq., F. D. Chauntrell, Esq., C. Sanderson, Esq, George Dickson, Esq., Baboo Govind Chund Doss, Baboo Sham Churn Law, Baboo Rajendra Lall, Mitter, Baboo Ishur Chunder Ghosal, Baboo Kisto Doss Pal, Baboo Jadoo Nath Mullick, Baboo Khetter Mohun Chatterjee, T. W. Brookes, Esq., F. Wyman, Esq, Prince Ruheemooddeen, Moulvie Abdool Luteef, Khan Bahadoor, Kazee Abdool Baree, Mirza Abdool Kureem Sheerajee, Nakhoda Hajee Zakaria Mohamed, Nakhoda Hossein Ibraheem Bin Jouhah, and Moonshee Ameer Ali Khan Bahadoor.

Mr. THOMAS W. BROOKES, in rising to second the third resolution said :— Gentlemen,—It has fallen to me to second the resolution which has been so ably proposed by the

gentleman who has just sat down. I should stand before you, gentlemen, with some degree of timidity, did this resolution require any advocacy of mine to ensure its adoption. After the very able addresses delivered by the honorable gentlemen who have preceded me, it is almost unnecessary for me to say any thing, and especially remembering that there are others to follow. But I would ask you to give me your patience for a few moments. It is very evident—self-evident I might say—from this numerously attended meeting representing all classes and creeds, that the object of it has your most cordial sympathy. It is not necessary, as has already been said, to raise a statue or memorial to our late lamented Viceroy in order to keep his memory green in our recollections. His good name and works will live bright and pure for years to come in the minds of all present, and the whole of the people of this vest Empire. (Cheers.) But, Sir, it is our custom, it has been the custom in all ages, to erect memorials to those men who by the blessing of Providence stand out by their good works prominently and boldly in the annals of the world's history. And it is, therefore, that I ask you, gentlemen, not only to support the resolution which I have the honor to second, by your sympathy, but by your subscriptions also. (Applause). To lose a statesman like Lord Mayo would be a loss at any time, but to lose him at a time like the present, when his great experience, gained by much labour and travel, his nobility of mind and thoroughly English character, seems almost indispensible to us, is more deplorable ; but, Sir, in raising a memorial to the memory of Lord Mayo, I would forget the mode in which it has pleased God to remove him from us. The shock we have received will pale down, and we must then

only remember that he, the Christian in whose honor we are to-day assembled, worked alike for the Christian, the Mahomedan, and the Hindoo—in other words that he worked for the whole of the people of this great country. With these few remarks, gentlemen, I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution which you have heard read. (Cheers.)

Mr. G. W. KELLNER, in supporting the resolution said :—Gentlemen,—To all that has been so well said to-day, I have but little to add in support of the resolution now before the meeting, for raising a memorial to the late lamented Viceroy. It is a resolution that must commend itself not only to every one here present, but to people of every race and creed throughout this country (Applause), for his solicitude as a ruler extended over all. There is no class-interest in India, no section of the public service that ever appealed in vain to the justice of the Viceroy or to the sympathies of the man. (Cheers) It is well, therefore, that all classes should join in a memorial which (let us hope) shall fitly express the general sense of a national calamity, and worthily perpetuate his name. It is a duty we owe to his memory and to those who may come after us. He needs no visible monument amongst the many who now mourn his loss, for his memory will endure in their hearts, loved and blessed as the "memory of the just"—the memory of a just ruler and a good man, whose sun has gone down while it was yet day, but not before he had given assurance that the aims of his public life were the well-being of the people of this land, the honor of his country and his God. (Applause.)

RAJAH KALI KRISHNA Bahadoor spoke as follows:—

On a mournful occasion like the present, I feel I cannot adequately give utterance to my emotion, especially after the pathetic addresses delivered; but if there be no objection on the score of time, I would at the request of some of my friends, say a few words in Bengali on the basis of Sanskrit elegiac lines, to the great majority of the native portion of this meeting, with reference to the noble condescension, genial humour and appreciation of merit, which were the most prominent characteristics of the late Viceroy. His untimely end has cast a great weight of sorrow and misfortune on this land, and seriously affected the affable spirit, and cast a gloom over the domestic hearth of the amiable Countess, to whom we are indebted for the introduction of the pleasant garden parties at the Government House, which so many of us so much enjoyed. I see however that all this has been already embodied in the proceedings of the day; but I have no doubt that heavy as is our affliction, it is somewhat alleviated by being so widely distributed amongst the general public, and by the sympathy so graciously and fully expressed by our loved Sovereign and the Imperial Parliament.

I beg to conclude with extracts from the letter of Sir Salar Jung, G. C. S. I., of Hyderabad, and His Highness the Maharajah of Burdwan

"The dreadful crime by which the Viceroy's life has been so abruptly terminated has filled all India with horror, and I sympathize most truly with the afflicted Countess and her family."

SALAR JUNG.

"I cordially agree with you, that we have suffered a very great loss by the infernal act which has robbed India of the services of Lord Mayo."

On the motion of a native gentleman, the names of the Reverend K. M. Bannerjee, Baboo Dabendro N. Tagore, and Baboo Keshub Chunder Sen, were included in the General Committee.

The resolution was after this put and carried.

Mr. JOHN COWIE, the Sheriff, purposed a vote of thanks to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for presiding on the occasion. His Honor, however, observed that the occasion was a very sad one, and he would beg to be allowed to decline the acceptance of even the most formal thanks.

This brought the meeting to a close.

A meeting of the General Committee appointed as above was held on Monday the 11th March 1872 at the Town Hall for the purpose of electing an Executive Committee to give effect to the resolution as to the best means of perpetuating the memory of the late Earl of Mayo. There was a full attendence of members.

Major-General the Hon'ble H. W. Norman was voted to the chair and read the notice convening the meeting. He said that it was evidently necessary that a working Committee should be elected to carry out the purposes of the meeting, and that, for this object, a paper had been handed to him, containing the names of members who were proposed to serve on the Executive Committee.

The Chairman then read out the names, and observed that if any members present wished to propose other names, he would be glad to add them to the list. The following members were then elected :—The Hon'ble Mr. John Strachey, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Louis Jackson, the

Hon'ble Mr. Robert Stewart, the Hon'ble Mr. J. R. Bullen Smith, Mr. C. E. Bernard, Mr. Elias, S. Gubbay, Baboo Keshub Chunder Sen, Mr. G. W. Kellner, Mr. J. A. Crawford, Baboo Romanath Tagore, Baboo Digumber Mitter, Colonel H. L. Thuillier, Rev. J. Stephenson, Mr. Thos. W. Brookes, Mr. J. Pitt Kennedy, Moulvi Abdool Latif, Khan Bahadur, Rajah Kali Krishna, Bahadur, Rajah Narendra Krishna, the Most Reverend the Archbishop Steins, Mr Manockjee Rustomjee, Lord Ulick Brown, Mr. Thomas A Apcar, and Colonel A. S. Allan,—5 members to form a quorum. Mr. Wood of the Chamber of Commerce was elected Honorary Secretary. The Chairman then asked the meeting whether they would make any formal resolution, or leave the matter to the Executive Committee; no resolution having been proposed, the meeting was dissolved.

His Highness the Maharajah of Vizianagram, K. C. S. I., and the Hon'ble Rajah Jotendro Mohun Tagore were subsequently invited to join the Executive Committee.

Address to the Public.

The Sub-committee, appointed for the purpose of carrying out the objects of a Public Meeting, held at the Town Hall of Calcutta, on the 5th March, appeal to their fellow-subjects of the British Crown in India, to all foreign residents in Her Majesty's Indian Territories, to the Princes, Chiefs, and Nobles of India, and to all who survey with interest the condition and progress of this country.

All those to whom this appeal is addressed are earnestly entreated to give their aid, influence, and persuasion, in furtherance of the object of the Committee, that the national feeling on the present occasion should be emphatically

and worthily expressed by a great spontaneous movement of admiration and regret.

If custom requires that merits of eminent Statesmen, Soldiers, Legislators, or Philanthropists, should be commemorated by Statues or other durable Monuments, how more than commonly urgent is it that we should do homage to the memory of a great public officer who has been taken away in the midst of his usefulness, perfidiously slain in the performance of an act of public duty Nothing can be truly effectual for this purpose which falls short of hearty and united action on the part of all who loved, admired, and respected him whose loss we now deplore. Calcutta, as the seat of Goverment in India, and the abode of the Viceroy, now desires to take the lead, not in any local or partial, but in one universal movement in his honor.

The Committee, therefore, to which this duty has been delegated, respectfully and earnestly solicits general support, invites opinions and suggestions, and promises that in carrying out the object in view, its anxious wish will be to consult the intentions and desires of its supporters.

The Committee will not at present venture upon a suggestion as to the precise form which the Mayo Memorial should take. Most probably the general feeling will require that a Statue of Lord Mayo should be comprehended in the scheme ; but it is hoped that the sums contributed will enable those who have the final decision to inaugurate some great public work, which shall not merely hand down his name to posterity, but largely promote the welfare of the people to whom his last labors were devoted, and for whose good he sacrificed himself.

MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

A MEETING of the General Committee of the "Mayo Memorial" was held yesterday, Thursday, 4th July, in the Hall of the Chamber of Commerce, at 4 P. M., to take into consideration what form the memorial proposed to be raised in Calcutta in honor of the late Lord Mayo should assume. There were about thirty members pr sent, among them His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

On the motion of Mr. Horace Cockerell, the Hon'ble J. R. Bullen-Smith was voted to the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN said that he had received from Sir John Strachey a letter written to that gentleman by Lady Mayo, in which she expressed a wish that an equestrian statue should be erected in Calcutta. The question before the meeting was—what form the intended memorial should assume? If the meeting were to decide on an equestrian statue to form a part of the memorial to be erected in Calcutta, their decision should be published for the confirmation of the general body of subscribers. The statue of Sir J. Outram cost £3,500; but now since every thing connected with art had risen in price, it would cost more than £3,500 for the statue in question. An eminent sculptor in London had intimated that he would undertake the work for £5,000, and the Chairman was of opinion that that sum would be ample to meet all contingencies.

His Honor the LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR said that he thought that since it was the wish of the late Viceroy's family that an equestrian statue should form a part of the memorial to be raised to him here, they should conform to

the wishes of his family, and decide upon an equestrian statue.

One or two members then made a few remarks, after which it was proposed by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, seconded by Dr. J. Ewart, and carried unanimously—

"That in the opinion of this Committee an Equestrian Statue of the late Lord Mayo should form a part of the memorial proposed to be raised in Calcutta in honor of the late Lord Mayo, and that this opinion be submitted for the confirmation of the general body of subscribers."

Mr. Roberts proposed that the value of the statue should be limited to £6,000.

No one, however, agreeing to the proposal, it was not put to the vote.

The next question was the appointment of a Committee in London for the purpose of selecting a sculptor, &c., to give effect to the first resolution, with reference to which the following resolution was proposed by the Rev. J. Stephenson and seconded by the Hón'ble R. Stewart, and carried unanimously :—

"That the following gentlemen, resident in London, be invited to form themselves into a Committee for the purpose of giving effect to the Committee's wishes here with regard to the statue, and the selection of a sculptor, &c.:—

"The Hon'ble R. Bourke, M. P, Major O. T. Burne, C. S. I., General R. Strachey, Dr. F. J Mouat, Sir Henry Sumner Maine, K. C. S. I., and W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq."

The third question was the disposal of the balance of the subscriptions after defraying the expenses of the statue. After a short debate on this question, the following resolu-

tion was adopted, proposed by Dr. Murray Mitchell and seconded by Horace Cockerell, Esq. :—

"That the application of the surplus funds, after defraying the cost of the equestrian statue decided upon, be left for consideration by this Committee when the fund has been finally closed and the exact available surplus ascertained."

A vote of thanks was then proposed to the Chair, after which the meeting separated.

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held on Thursday the 18th September 1873, when the minutes of proceedings of the Meeting held on the 21st May were confirmed ; a statement of receipts and disbursements to 31st August 1873 was submitted ; and the following subjects were discussed.

The Chairman—the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jackson—read Major Burne's acknowledgement of the remittance for £100 paid to the two unsuccessful artists for their designs for a Statue, and £1,000 paid to Mr. Thornycroft, on signing his agreement with the London Committee, as the first instalment towards the sum of £4,500 for which he has undertaken to execute the Equestrian Statue, in two years from 9th June 1873.

The Chairman then informed the Committee that, as promised at the last meeting, he had addressed His Excellency the Viceroy as to the site proposed for the Statue, opposite Prinsep's Ghaut, and read the reply from His Lordship, who said that an official answer would be sent as soon as possible after the Chairman's reference had been considered by the Government.

The next matter for the Committee's attention was the proper disposal of the surplus that would remain in their hands after providing for the cost of Statue and attendant expenses in Calcutta: any decision now arrived at being subject to that of the General Committee, to whom it would be submitted at an early meeting after the approaching holidays.

The Chairman remarked that 17 proposals of various kinds had been placed before the Committee, which he would briefly mention :—

1. The establishment in Calcutta of a Convalescent Home for Europeans and East Indians.
2. Professorship of Natural Science in the Calcutta University, or Scholarships for the study of that science.
3. The grant of £1,000 towards re-building Lord Mayo's family Mansion in Ireland.
4. The endowment of Scholarships in the College for Civil Engineers, Cooper's Hill, England.
5. Public wells, or Gardens, or Serais, at the head-quarters of each district in Bengal.
6. Fitting up a Ward of the General Hospital with approved appliances.
7. To supplement subscriptions at Rangoon for a local Memorial there.
8. A grant to secure the permanence of the Mayo Industrial School at Simla.
9. To build a Freemason's Hall for Bengal.
10. To build a large Serai for native travellers visiting Calcutta.
11. Prizes for Agricultural produce, machinery, and stock.
12. Institution at any great Mahomedan Town for the education, chiefly English, of Mahomedans.

13. Convalescent Sanitaria at Hill Stations for poorer Europeans.
14. A grant towards completing the Native Hospital.
15. A grant towards building a Hall or Barrack for the Calcutta Volunteers.
16. To provide a Public Park in the Northern part of Calcutta.
17. A grant towards repairs of the Metcalfe Hall.

Each of these proposals was fully considered; but the Committee were of opinion that while they all presented points of more or less interest and utility, it was incumbent on them to make such a selection as would secure the object not only of the Committee but of the general body of subscribers, and that was to appropriate the surplus to some purpose of public usefulness specially adapted to perpetuate Lord Mayo's name and memory.

It was obviously impossible for the Committee to do more than record their appreciation of the several schemes submitted to them, and to confine their consideration to those which, in their judgment, presented the best grounds for acceptance.

After discussing the merits and claims of each proposal the Committee came to the conclusion that the establishment of a *Public Park* in the northern part of the City and the completion of the *Native Hospital* recommended themselves as the fittest objects for their determination as to which of the two should have the preference,—the entire surplus being devoted to whichever plan was decided on.

The Chairman advocated the former as an object which, under the title of the "Mayo Park," would not only be appropriately associated with the name and memory of the late Viceroy, but would be a great boon to the native population

of the Northern part of Calcutta, affording them an accessible place of healthful recreation. The situation was good and well adapted for the purpose, and the Chairman believed that the Justices would help the proposal by obtaining the lease of the land at an annual rent of 8,000 to 10,000 rupees. Enclosing the piece of ground, and clearing and laying it out would not exceed the surplus at the Committee's disposal. The Justices would probably recoup themselves to a large extent by sub-letting a portion of the land which would undoubtedly become more valuable by the material improvement which the Park would effect in that locality. Repeating the advantages which he thought his proposal embraced, and as a proper means of perpetuating Lord Mayo's memory, the Chairman submitted it for the Committee's decision.

The Hon'ble Rajah Ramanath Tagore was of opinion that the Chairman's proposal was one to which the Meeting would no doubt give their best consideration: it was a thoughtful suggestion, prompted and influenced by the best motives. The proposal seemed to him, however, completely dependent on a condition which he apprehended could not be secured, for in his opinion it was beyond the power of the Justices to enter into an engagement which would—as far as he understood the terms upon which the land was available—bind them to a perpetual lease involving a large annual charge on the Municipality. Consequently if the Justices had *not* that power its absence would be fatal to the proposal. But even if they had, he questioned very much if the Justices would venture to exercise it in that direction and for that purpose, for as far as his own information went it would seem that there was no declared necessity for or want of the Park or Garden; and, considering that Beadon Square supplied a place of public resort and recreation for the inhabitants of

the Native Town, he did not think that the scheme advocated by the Chairman was called for.

He now turned to the consideration of the plan proposed by Rajah Kali Krishna Bahadoor. In his judgment a wiser or more beneficent plan for disposing of the surplus could hardly have been suggested. The new Native Hospital, as all knew, was unfinished and could not be completed for want of funds, which were urgently needed to enable the Institution to be thrown open to all classes of the public, for whose special benefit it had been erected. The permanency of the institution, the immense amount of good work it had done for 80 years, the continuance of its destined course of usefulness for years to come, and the advantages which its unsectional character afforded to all classes of the community of this City,—all these declare to what a noble purpose the funds at our disposal can be applied.

The late Lord Mayo, he was told, took an earnest interest in the Hospital, and regarded it as one of the highest charities to which his approval could be accorded; and therefore as an enduring memorial of the lamented Viceroy he would gladly see the proposition of his friend Rajah Kali Krishna adopted by the meeting in its entirety, as their recommendation to the General Committee with whom the final decision rests.

The Chairman having taken the sense of the Meeting on the question of the two plans before them, put the latter to the vote, and declared it carried by a majority of 9 to 3; whereupon it was resolved that the result of the Meeting should be communicated to the General Committee on an early day after the approaching holidays.

H. W. I. WOOD,
Hony. Secy. and Treasurer.

From the "Englishman" of 24th December 1873.

Proceedings of the General Committee at the Town Hall, on Monday, 22nd December 1873.

A MEETING of the members of the General Committee of the Mayo Memorial was held on Monday afternoon last at the Town Hall to determine in what manner the surplus of the subscriptions, after providing for the cost of an equestrian statue of the late Lord Mayo, should be spent. A large number of influential European and Native gentlemen were present. among whom we noticed the following: His Honor the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jackson, the Hon'ble Mr. Schalch, Major-General the Hon'ble Sir Henry Norman, the Hon'ble Mr. Ellis, Lord Ulick Browne, the Hon'ble T. M. Robinson, the Hon'ble G. C. Paul, His Grace the Most Reverend Dr. W. Steins, S. J., Colonel H. K. Burne, Colonel H. L. Thuillier, Colonel B. Walton, Dr. J. Ewart, R. Stewart, Esq., G. W. Kellner, Esq., L. P. D Broughton, Esq., Raja Kali Krishna Deva, Bahadur, the Hon'ble Raja Ramanath Tagore, the Hon'ble Raja Jotendro Mohan Tagore, the Hon'ble Degamber Mitra, Raja Narandra Krishna, the Hon'ble Moulvi Abdool Lutif, Khan Bahadur, Kawar Harandra Krishna, Rai Bahadur, &c., &c.

Sir George Campbell was, on the motion of the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jackson, Chairman of the Executive Committee, voted to the chair.

His Honor the President called upon the Hon'ble Mr. Jackson to state the condition of the accounts in connection with the Mayo Memorial, and to read the report of the members of the Executive Committee on the different proposals submitted for their consideration.

The Hon'ble Mr Jackson here read a statement of accounts prepared by Mr. Wood, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, which we give below :—

				Rs.		
Subscriptions advertised 31st August 1873				1,08,403	11	4
Ditto since received from—						
L. P. D. Broughton, Esq. ...	200	0	0			
Additional subscriptions from Tirhoot, Shahabad, & Champarun ...	8,427	4	0			
Officers and men of the Shahabad District Police ...	167	14	0			
Port Commissioners' Office ...	34	0	0			
Deputy Magistrate, Natore, through Deputy Collector, Rajshahi ...	1,732	0	0			
				10,561	2	0
				1,18,964	13	4
Interest on deposits* ...			...	3,118	14	1
				1,22,083	11	5
Deposit with Oriental Bank ... Rs.	80,000	0	0			
Current account with ditto	24,631	0	9			
Cash with Honorary Secretary	440	9	7			
	1,05,071	10	4			
Outstanding subscriptions	1,719	0	0			
	1,06,790	10	4			

* Rs. 1,600 due 7th January 1874.

Remitted to London, £100, for designs for statue ...	1,066	10	9	
£1,000, 1st instalment of cost of equestrian statue	10,786	8	3	
Refund of subscription remitted in error from Lucknow	52	12	0	
Expenses—advertising, printing, &c. ...	3,387	2	1	
				1,22,083 11 5

H. W. I. WOOD,
Hony. Secretary and Treasurer.

Calcutta, December 22, 1873.

The hon'ble gentleman explained that after meeting the remaining instalments in favour of Mr. Thornycroft, and the rate of exchange thereon, there would be a surplus of about Rs. 65,000, the disposal of which they would have to consider; and he then passed to the report of the Executive Committee, and said that of the seventeen proposals which had been submitted for their consideration, and which were here read, two had been selected by them as the most appropriate—namely, the establishment of a People's Park in the northern division of the town, and the establishment of the Native Hospital. Of these two proposals, the Executive Committee decided in favour of the latter by 9 votes against 3; and that being the present condition of affairs, it now remained for the General Committee either to give their sanction to the proposal adopted by the Executive Committee, or to propose some other.

Raja Narandra Krishna rose to speak in favour of the proposal for the establishment of the Native Hospital, but as there was no substantive resolution before the meeting, and as he had none to make, he was called to order by the Hon'ble President.

His Honor the President said that, as shown by the Hon'ble Mr. Jackson, there was now a surplus of Rs. 65,000 available, and that it was the duty of the meeting to consider in what manner this large amount should be spent. Seventeen proposals had been laid before the Executive Committee, the members of which eliminated fifteen, and selected two as the most desirable. Of these two the one for the establishment of the Native Hospital had been adopted by the Executive Committee by 9 votes against 3, and the report of the majority had been submitted to the meeting. That being the case, they were now to decide by a substantive resolution any proposal that they thought desirable.

The Hon'ble Raja Ramanath Tagore proposed a substantive resolution to the effect that the surplus be made over to the governors of the Native Hospital for the purpose of completing the erection of that building At the last meeting, the hon'ble gentleman added, he had fully expressed his views on the subject, and he did not, therefore, think it necessary to reiterate them.

Major-General the Hon'ble Sir Henry Norman advocated the claims of the Calcutta Volunteers to a portion of the surplus, and proposed a resolution to the effect that half the amount should be set apart for the erection of a building as permament head-quarters for the Volunteers. The hon'ble gentleman spoke in feeling terms of the great

interest which the late Lord Mayo had taken in the Corps, and of the love and esteem in which His Excellency had been held by the Volunteers as their Honorary Colonel; and he alluded to the landing and embarkation of Lord Mayo's body as occasions on which the feeling of the Volunteers for their Honorary Colonel had been unmistakably brought out Referring to the proposal for the devotion of the surplus to the completion of the Native Hospital, the hon'ble gentleman said that it was a matter of surprise that, in such a wealthy city as Calcutta, an institution like the Native Hospital, which had been so perseveringly and laudably commenced, should now languish if a portion of the surplus were withheld. Moreover, he did not think that it would be appropriate to fritter away the surplus by giving it to the Native Hospital, as it was desirable to have a distinct institution with a distinctive title to perpetuate the memory of the late Lord Mayo; and such a building, he thought, would be the head-quarters of the Calcutta Volunteers. He was sure that, had Lord Mayo been living, His Excellency would have most heartily endorsed such a proposal.

The Hon'ble Moulvi Abdul Lutif seconded the proposition, which, he thought, was a most fitting one.

The Hon'ble Raja Ramanath Tagore said that no one would for a moment deny that the Volunteers were of great service to the city; but the question was, whether half the amount would suffice for the erection of a building as permanent head-quarters for the Volunteers. For his own part, he did not think that the amount would suffice, and it was therefore not desirable to split the surplus. If they gave the whole amount to the Native Hospital, they would

give it to an institution which had done the greatest good to all—Europeans and Eurasians, Hindus and Muhammadans. (Hear, hear.)

His Honor the President thought that, before they proceeded further with the discussion, it would be well if they had before them all the proposals which it was intended to move. He would therefore ask whether any gentleman had any other proposal to make.

The Hon'ble Mr. Jackson, who formed a minority in the meeting which decided in favour of the Native Hospital, was opposed to the proposal, and addressed the meeting at some length. He thought that they would not be justified in devoting to any local purpose so large a sum as a lakh of rupees, contributed from all parts of India; and he did not understand by what process or means such a course could be held to be a compliance with the wishes of the subscribers. Indeed, he thought that they would not be carrying out the trust of the subscribers if they devoted the surplus to a purely local purpose, though no other object of a general kind, he must say, had been proposed. It had already been decided to erect an equestrian statue of the late Lord Mayo, but as there were already several statues of distinguished statesmen in the town, it was desirable that they should have such a statue as would distinguish it from all others, considering the tragical end of their late Viceroy. He had been in communication with Major Trevor on the subject, and that gentleman was of opinion that the surplus should be utilised in adding to the effect of the statue by the laying out of a garden around it. It was desirable that in order to mark the honour, affection, and esteem in which the late Viceroy was held by all, they

should have such a statue as would mark it out as a special memorial, and he accordingly proposed a resolution to the effect that the surplus be held in reserve for the purpose of beautifying and adorning the statue, and that plans and designs be invited for that purpose. He wished, in conclusion, to be distinctly understood, however, that he was far from unfriendly to the Native Hospital.

No one having seconded the above proposal, it fell to the ground.

The Hon'ble Mr. Jackson said that he thought it his duty, as Chairman of the Executive Committee, to read a letter which had been received from the President of the Dalhousie Institute. The letter, which was here read, asked for a portion of the surplus to enable the Committee of the Institute to secure a life-size statue of the late Viceroy, to be executed by Foley, and to be placed on the right of the statue of Lord Dalhousie. The sense of the meeting was, however, against this proposal.

His Honor the President here asked whether there was any other proposal to be moved, and no gentleman rising, His Honor said that he would now invite discussion on the proposals before the meeting. He would ask them first to discuss the first proposal, moved by the Hon'ble Raja Ramanath Tagore, as that struck at the root of all others proposals.

The Hon'ble Mr. Ellis thought it necessary to explain that it was not Rs. 65,000, but the surplus after beautifying and adorning the site of the statue, that it was proposed to make over to the Native Hospital, and it was on that understanding that he would support the resolution. His friend to the right (General Norman) had said that it was

the duty of the towns people to provide for the completion of the Native Hospital; he (the speaker) would say that it was also the duty of the towns people to provide for the erection of a building as head-quarters for the Volunteers, who were the defenders of the town. He then took objection to the remark of his friend that they would be frittering away the money if they gave it to the Native Hospital; but, considering that it was desirable to devote it to a single object, he thought that they would sooner lay themselves open to the charge of frittering away the money if they devoted it, as had been proposed, to more than a single object. Then, again, he would take objection to the remark that, had Lord Mayo been alive, he would have himself endorsed the proposal that a portion of the surplus should be devoted to the erection of a building as head-quarters for the Volunteers; for there was hardly a single proposal laid before the Executive Committee of which it might not have been said that Lord Mayo did take an equally deep interest. Here the speaker read a few of the 17 proposals, and said that in each of those Lord Mayo took great interest. On the other hand, he thought that it would be eminently appropriate if they devoted the surplus to a charitable purpose; and such a purpose as that proposed by his friend opposite (Raja Ramanath Tagore) was the most fitting one. The speaker concluded by saying that he made these remarks without wishing in the least to depreciate the services of the Volunteers.

The Hon'ble Raja Jotendro Mohan Tagore, referring to the remark that the surplus should be devoted to a distinct institution, explained that if they gave it to the Native Hospital, and if the name of that institution had been changed, that would serve their purpose.

The Advocate-General thought that the memory of the late humane and generous-hearted Lord Mayo could not be better immortalized than by the devotion of the surplus to an institution which had for its object the alleviation of the miseries and sufferings of humanity. For that reason he would support the resolution before the meeting.

Colonel Thuillier thought that the governors of the Native Hospital should be asked to erect a bust of the Viceroy in a conspicuous part of the building.

The Hon'ble Mr Jackson informed the meeting that the governors had undertaken to erect a bust, and also to change the name of the institution to "The Mayo Native Hospital."

His Honor then put the following resolution, as proposed by the Hon'ble Raja Ramanath Tagore: "That the surplus of the Mayo Memorial Fund, or such portion of it as the subscribers may think proper, should be handed over to the governors of the Calcutta Native Hospital to enable them to complete and furnish the new building, and that the institution be called the 'Mayo Native Hospital', and a bust of the late Viceroy be erected in the central hall, so as to perpetuate the memory of Lord Mayo in connection with this useful institution."

The meeting then proceeded to decide a specified amount which should, for the present, be made over to the Native Hospital.

Kawar Harendra Krishna proposed that the sum of Rs. 50,000 be at once made over to the Native Hospital. As the amount is at present held in deposit in the Bank, it was agreed that the same should be made over on the expiration of the time. The motion was duly put and

agreed to. With reference to the balance, it was agreed, on the motion of the Hon'ble Mr. Ellis, that the same be left to the Executive Committee for the purpose of beautifying and adorning the equestrian statue, and that, if any portion of this sum remained after defraying such expenses, the same should be made over to the Native Hospital.

With this the business of the meeting having been brought to a close, Raja Narandra Krishna proposed a vote of thanks to the chair in the usual form.

Colonel Thuillier thought that the meeting was greatly indebted to Mr. Wood, the indefatigable Secretary and Treasurer, for his labours in connection with the Memorial Fund, and proposed that their special and cordial acknowledgments of that gentleman's valuable services be accorded to him.

His Honor heartily seconded the proposal, and declared it carried with acclamation.

The meeting then dispersed.

Cones and Co., No. 19, *Loll Bazar.*